



**FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE**

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-94-140
Thursday
21 July 1994

Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-94-140

CONTENTS

21 July 1994

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Arab-Israeli Talks

Jordanian-Israeli-U.S. Talks Held in Amman	1
Peres Addresses Meeting [Amman TV]	1
Al-Majali Addresses Meeting [Amman TV]	2
News Conference Held [Amman TV]	3
Al-Mu'ashshir: Talks 'Very Good' [Amman TV]	8
Christopher Ends Visit, Departs [Amman Radio]	8
Experts To Resume Meetings [Amman Radio]	8
Economic Committee Meeting Planned [AL-RAY 21 Jul]	8
Peres, Jordan's al-Majali To Meet in Mid-August [AL-RAY 21 Jul]	8
Sha'th Says 'Progress' Made in Bilateral Talks [MENA]	9
Says Erez Incident To Affect Process [MENA]	9
Israeli Delegation To Negotiations Departs Cairo [MENA]	9

Inter-Arab Affairs

League Chief Meets With Oman, Djibouti Envoys [MENA]	10
'Abd-al-Majid, Libyan Envoy Discuss Lockerbie [MENA]	10
Arab Forces Conference Condemns Embargo on Iraq [INA]	10

Islamic Affairs

Iran Calls For ICO Meeting on Bosnia-Herzegovina [IRNA]	10
---	----

Palestinian Affairs

PNA Member Views Erez Trouble, Peace Talks [Cairo International]	11
PNA Justice Minister Blames Israel for Erez Events [MENA]	11
Source Views Causes of Security Incidents in Gaza [MENA]	12
Police Hold Suspects in Rafah Attack [Jerusalem Radio]	12
Police Personnel Wages Reportedly Cut by 25 Percent [MENA]	12
Hamas, DFLP Cited on Operations Against Israelis [Damascus TV]	12
Hamas Warns Palestinian Commander Against Harassment [Paris Radio Monte Carlo]	13
Al-Husayni: No Jordan-Israel Pact Without Palestinians [Jerusalem TV]	13
Minister Welcomes Progress on Jordanian Peace Track [Jerusalem TV]	13
Al-Masri Reportedly Resigns From Authority Council [AL-RAY 21 Jul]	13
Orient House Criticizes 'Campaign' in Jerusalem [AL-QUDS 20 Jul]	14
PLO Official Criticizes Israeli Policy on Jerusalem [Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 19 Jul]	14

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Response To French-U.S. 'Plan' Considered [London AL-HAYAH 20 Jul]	16
Meeting Sought With Premier on Envoy Disappearances [Kuwait Radio]	16
Dembri on Dialogue, Ties with Morocco, Libya [MENA]	17
Speaker, Iraqi Envoy Discuss Bilateral Ties [Algiers Radio]	17
APS Journalist Assassinated in Bou Saada [Algiers Radio]	17
Sifi Comments on Transition Period, Elections [Madrid Radio]	17

Egypt

Musa Reportedly Urges Diplomatic Contacts With Iraq [AFP]	17
Peres To Arrive in Cairo 21 Jul for Talks [MENA]	18
Mubarak Expresses Hope for Progress [MENA]	18
Israel's Weizman Phones Mubarak [MENA]	18
Commentary Urges Israel To Make 'Brave Decisions' [Cairo Radio]	18
Israeli Plan To Open Cultural Centers Reported [AL-SHA'B 15 Jul]	19
Minister Says No Agricultural Land in Israeli Hands [MENA]	19
Musa Confers With British Envoy on Bosnia, Yemen [MENA]	19
Discusses Cooperation With Saudi Envoy [MENA]	20
Mubarak, Demirel Discuss European Proposal on Bosnia [MENA]	20
Sidqi Returns From Turkey [MENA]	20
Kuwaiti Charged With Funding Terrorists Deported [AL-JUMHURIYAH 16 Jul]	20
Awqaf Minister on Terrorists Coming From Afghanistan [MENA]	20

Libya

Minister on Lockerbie Case, Relations with West [London AL-SHARQ AL-AW'SAT 18 Jul]	21
--	----

Sudan

IGADD-Sponsored Peace Talks Continue in Nairobi	21
Moi Opens 3d Session [Nairobi Radio]	21
Further on Talks [Omdurman Radio]	22
Al-Bashir Reiterates Support for Talks [Omdurman Radio]	23
Deputy Speaker on Unified Rebel Faction Statement [Omdurman National Unity Radio]	23
Armed Forces Praise Return of Rebel Leader [Omdurman Radio]	23

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Saudi Arabia

Cabinet Ministers View Gaza Violence, Other Issues [SPA]	24
Press on Christopher Tour, Arab-Israeli Conflict [SPA]	24

Yemen

Presidential Council Member Holds News Conference [Sanaa Radio]	25
Al-Zindani, al-'Attar Receive Iranian Official [Sanaa Radio]	25
Concern Expressed Over Ambassador's Disappearance [Sanaa Radio]	26
Sanaa Says Former Aden Governor 'Was Not Killed' [London AL-SHARQ AL-AW'SAT 18 Jul]	26
Water Pumping Resumes to 'Most' of Aden [Sanaa Radio]	26

IRAQ

'Aziz Reacts to Albright's Remarks on Sanctions [INA]	27
Paper Criticizes U.S. Sanctions Stand at UNSC [INA]	27
Al-Sahhaf Protests Leaflet Dropping to UN [INA]	28
Turkish Parliamentarians Discuss Cooperation [INA]	28
Al-Sahhaf Confers With Delegation [INA]	28
Industry Minister Confers With Ministry Staff [INA]	28
Operations Center To Monitor Nightclub Closures [AL-QADISIYAH 11 Jul]	29
Barzani Radio Charges PUK Shot KDP Official [Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan]	29
KRP Hails Saddam, Denounces 'Foreigners' Agents [Baghdad Radio]	29

ISRAEL

Peres Leaves for Cairo To Brief Mubarak on Talks [Jerusalem Radio]	30
Rabin Comments on Buenos Aires Bombing [Buenos Aires TV]	30

Netanyahu Views Peace Process, PLO [THE STAR 21-26 Jul]	30
Clarification of U.S. Policy Toward Iran Demanded [HA'ARETZ 20 Jul]	33
Justice Minister Denies U.S. Extradition Request [Jerusalem Radio]	33
Editorial Urges Relentless Pursuit of 'Terrorists' [HA'ARETZ 20 Jul]	33
Prisoner Freed on Appeal From 'Arafat's Wife [Jerusalem Radio]	34
Technical Cooperation Pact Signed With Seychelles [Jerusalem Radio]	34

JORDAN

King Husayn, Christopher Hold News Conference [Amman TV]	35
Husayn-Rabin Statement Ending 'Belligerence' Possible [AFP]	37
Muslim Brotherhood Rejects Negotiations With Israel [AL-SABIL 25 Jul]	37
Protests Meetings With 'Zionist Enemy' [AL-SABIL 25 Jul]	38
Member Sees Effort To Defame Muslim Brotherhood [AL-SABIL 25 Jul]	39
Prince Hasan Comments on Talks With Israel [HA'ARETZ 20 Jul]	39
Interviewed on Talks, Syria's Attitude [Amman Radio]	40
Paper: 'Capitulation' To Engender Martyrdom, Jihad [AL-MAJD 18 Jul]	41
Paper: 'Absurd' Peace Process Critics Must Stop [SAWT AL-SHA'B 19 Jul]	41
Tripartite Meeting Seen as 'Unique' Opportunity [AL-RA'Y 21 Jul]	42

LEBANON

Birri: 'U.S. Pressure' on Lebanon for Separate Deal [Beirut Radio]	43
Hizballah Denies Link to Buenos Aires Blast	43
'More Determined' To Fight [London AL-HAYAH 21 Jul]	43
Al-Musawi Denies Involvement [Tehran Radio]	43
Defendant Said To Enter U.S. With Turkish Passport [AL-SHIRA' 18 Jul]	43
Speaker Birri To Sign Media Bill 23 Jul [Beirut Radio]	44
Junblatt Criticizes Timing [Beirut Radio]	44
Antitank Rockets Fired at UNIFIL Helicopter [Voice of the South]	44
Israeli Fighters Raid Southern Areas [Beirut Radio]	44
Report Hits on Hizballah Sites [Tel Aviv Radio]	44
Hizballah Condemns Erez 'Massacre' [London AL-HAYAH 19 Jul]	44
Hizballah's 'Imad Mughaniyah Arrives [AL-SHIRA' 18 Jul]	45

SYRIA

Editorials View U.S. Role in Peace Talks [Damascus Radio]	46
'Full Withdrawal' From Golan, S. Lebanon Demanded [Damascus Radio]	47
Jordanian Reaction to Dead Sea Trilateral Reported [Damascus Radio]	47

SOUTH ASIA

India

Concern Conveyed to UK on Pakistan Kashmir Moves [Delhi Radio]	49
Action Taken Against 174 for Kashmir 'Excesses' [INDIAN EXPRESS 14 Jul]	49
Minister Reiterates Commitment to Human Rights [Delhi Radio]	49
Daily Notes 'Top-Heavy,' Aging Army Officer Corp [INDIAN EXPRESS 17 Jul]	49
Improving Jammu Kashmir Administration Planned [THE HINDUSTAN TIMES 13 Jul]	50
Article Views Rao Foreign Relations Challenges [THE HINDUSTAN TIMES 15 Jul]	51
'Defensive Stance' on Pakistan Talks Viewed [JANSATTA 18 Jul]	52
Minister Hints at Further Economic Liberalization [Delhi Radio]	52
Balance of Payments Situation Detailed [Delhi Radio]	53

Iran

Khamene'i Delivers Speech on Terrorism [Tehran Radio]	53
Islamic Trade Fair Seen as Step to Common Market [Tehran Radio]	55
Hashemi-Rafsanjani Opens Fair [Tehran Radio]	56
Fair Ends [Tehran Radio]	56

Albanian Deputy Trade Minister Confers With Va'ezai [IRNA]	56
Oil, Industry Ministers Hold Talks in Turkmenistan	57
Industry Minister Calls Trip 'Very Good' [Tehran Radio]	57
Oil Minister Views Transit of Gas [Tehran Radio]	57
Commentary Views Oil Minister's Visit [Tehran Radio]	57
Cooperation Agreement Signed With Syria [Tehran Radio]	58
Economic Understanding Signed With Guinea [Tehran Radio]	58
Romanian Speaker, Velayati Discuss Relations [Tehran Radio]	58
Meets With Nateq-Nuri on Expanding Ties [Tehran TV]	58
Emami-Kashani Condemns G-7 Statement in Sermon [Tehran Radio]	59
Remarks by U.S. Ambassador to Kuwait Faulted [JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 28 Jun]	59
Israeli Allegations on Argentina Bombing Rejected [Tehran Radio]	60
Radio Links Israeli Raids to Christopher Visit [Tehran Radio]	61
Voice of Israel Criticized for 'Blunder' [IRNA]	61
Abducted Diplomats Reportedly Still Alive [Tehran Radio]	62
Release of German 'Spy' Said Not 'Capitulation' [SALAM 12 Jul]	62
British Terrorism Policy Seen Contradictory [JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI 11 Jul]	62
'Part 1' of Confessions by Three MKO Members [Tehran TV]	63
'Part Two' [Tehran TV]	66
Security Official on MKO Murders [IRNA]	67
Trade Zone Established in Bandar-e 'Abbas [Tehran Radio]	69
Exports Increase in Volume, Value [Tehran Radio]	69
No Political Parties Apply for Permits [Tehran Radio]	69
ABRAR Stresses Need for Government Spokesman [30 Jun]	69
Reports 4,000 Officers Dismissed Denied [IRNA]	70
Paratroops Participate in Exercise in Shiraz [Tehran TV]	70
IRGC Commander Says 1,000 Basij Brigades Formed [Tehran TV]	70
*Right of Publication Withdrawn From Weekly [KEYHAN-E HAVA'I 22 Jun]	70
*Editorial on 'Destructive' Religious Practices [KEYHAN-E HAVA'I 29 Jun]	71

Nepal

Qian Says Dialogue 'Possible' With Dalai Lama [Delhi Radio]	72
Nationwide Strike Called by Leftist Parties [Delhi Radio]	72
Ruling Party Official: Democracy 'in Great Danger' [BANGKOK POST 19 Jul]	72

Pakistan

Foreign Minister Views Ties With Central Asia [Islamabad Radio]	73
---	----

Arab-Israeli Talks

Jordanian-Israeli-U.S. Talks Held in Amman

Peres Addresses Meeting

JN2007124994 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1122 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Speech by Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres at the opening session of trilateral Jordanian-Israeli-U.S. talks at the Dead Sea Hotel in the Jordan Valley—live]

[Text] Prime Minister al-Majali and the Jordanian delegation, Secretary of State Warren Christopher and the American delegation, my friends from the Israeli delegation, ladies and gentlemen: It took us 15 minutes to fly over, it took us 46 years to arrive, to this time and this place of peace and promise. Historically, we started at the same point. Politically, we are now embarking upon the same destiny to bring an entirely new situation to our people.

It is time for peace. The people desire it, the land needs it. The Dead Sea, silent and deep, may become a symbol of new life. The Ha'Aravah desert, which like a knife, cuts the valley in two, can become a unifying element, a domain of bloom between our two countries.

The meeting today must remind us of a place, of a date, of a destiny. The place, not far from here, in al-Quwayrah, north of al-'Aqabah, that is where the younger brother of the late King 'Abdallah, Amir Faysal Bin-al-Husayn, met with the leader of the Jewish people, Dr. Weizmann. It was a first meeting of representatives of two national movements. Faysal summarized his views in a letter he sent to Justice Felix Frankfurter on March 1919, from which I quote: We feel that the Arabs and the Jews are cousins in race, having suffered similar oppressions at the hands of powers stronger than themselves. We are working together for a reformed and revived Middle East, and our two movements complete one another. Indeed, I think that neither can be a real success without the other.

A promising voice in the prevailing wilderness.

The date is the 20th of July. The founder and the leader of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, His Majesty King 'Abdallah, emerged as a man of farsighted vision and appropriated political judgment. His kingdom was based on human and Arab values. He introduced the policy that offered peace before war, peace instead of war, peace to end war. He negotiated this policy with many of us. Some of these negotiations bore fruits, other saved lives. Yet, partly, they failed in the face of existing suspicions. Nonetheless, they laid a foundation for a unique relationship, hidden and open, between Jordan and Israel. We never forgot the need for peace even in the gloomy days of open warfare.

King 'Abdallah was assassinated in front of his young grandson, His Majesty King Husayn. This occurred the

20th of July 1951, the very same day of our meeting now. He gave his life for the cause of peace. Nothing can mark his life and death more than the arrival of peace on the very same date. The destiny is peace. The silent pledge of the wise king became the destiny of his grandson, His Majesty King Husayn, and the expectations and disciples of the Israeli leaders who looked to every opportunity to bring an end to wars to create a new opening with our neighbors. His Majesty King Husayn demonstrated stamina in face of uninvited dangers, and he has shown courage in riding impending opportunities.

What is taking place today, Mr. Prime Minister and Mr. Secretary, may be the light at the end of the tunnel we have crossed, and may end the swing of the pendulum which has swayed from the pole of blind hatred stemming from misunderstandings often created by neither of us to the pole of political trust serving permanently the needs common to us all.

Time has arrived to disperse old shadows, to permit legitimate peace and promising economy, to play their proper role in our destinies. Time has come for our families, whose roots sprang from the tents of Abraham to invite hospitality instead of perpetuating hostility. No more hostage. We can host each other gladly and easily.

The border between Jordan and Israel is the longest we have with any of our neighbors. We can mark it now by mutual agreement in respecting the sovereignty and the integrity of each of us.

The border touches three triangles—a Jordanian-Israeli-Palestinian one, a Jordanian-Israeli-Egyptian one, a Jordanian-Israeli-Syrian one—facilitated by our great friend, the United States of America, its president, and its secretary. We brought reason and agreement to two of those triangles. We do not intend to exclude the third one. Negotiations between Jordan and Israel do not call for the postponement of the negotiations with Syria and Lebanon. Our aim remains to reach a comprehensive peace in the Middle East, to build a new Middle East of peace. Peace with Jordan is central to the construction of a new Middle East. The centrality of its location, its impressive, civilized, and tested tradition may provide a real advantage for a durable rapport, for a framework of peace and security in the region.

We are now beginning to move and move openly. Peace needs daylight. The path ahead, the path we shall negotiate may be full of hurdles and long in distance. But, I do not harbor the slightest doubt that we can overcome the hurdles, shorten the distance, and reap early benefits, both for our people and for the other people in the Middle East.

I am convinced that the construction of a new Middle East will attract investors from all over the world. This ancient land, which cannot be forgotten, may become the new opportunity which cannot be overlooked. The peace process will not end with the signature of our political leaders. Indeed, only then will it begin. And our target should be that before the end of the 20th Century, we

will face a new political and economic landscape—a landscape where borders will be open; where Jordanians will not be stopped at Elat and Israelis in al-'Aqabah; where new sophisticated industries will offer job opportunities to the young generation; where waterways will cover the brown deserts; and where seaports and airports will be combined to serve all tourists to visit holy places, to be cured in hot springs, or to view beautiful antiquities; where the skies will be open to competitive aviation and land distances will be shortened by new railways and highways; where water and oil will be carried in pipelines laid to answer economic needs rather than strategic wars; and where the electricity systems will be connected to save billions of dollars.

Even before the sunset of the century, we can together reclaim land lost to desert. We can reclaim sea water to irrigate new fields, new gardens, new cities. We can change the face of the map and create a broken rift in the new structure of life. [sentence as heard] We have prepared our view how the future will look in a rather detailed manner and I am sure, from what I know, that you are ready likewise. We can transform a boundary of gloom into a valley of hope. Farmers will then replace soldiers. Greenhouses will come instead of barracks. Dunes will submit to plantation. Nature and reason have issued an invitation to this effect. The minerals of the Dead Sea, the innocence of the landscape, the varying levels of the terrain, the fatigues of the war. All of them await a new soul and a new hand.

What was started on the 1st of October last year in the White House, the trilateral agreement—reached between the president of the United States, the crown prince of Jordan, and myself—and what is happening today will crown the summit meeting in Washington between President Clinton, His Majesty King Husayn, and the Prime Minister of Israel Yitzhaq Rabin. It should become the start of a new era. None of us can permit it to fail and all of us must make a dual attempt to bring durable peace and promising economy to our needs. We shall have to demonstrate that a geographic rift has been transformed into an economic backbone and political divide has become a valley of wisdom. To cherish the memory of our fallen youngsters is to build the correct future for the youngsters who follow in their ways.

This time, Mr. Prime Minister and Mr. Secretary, history is on our side. We are offered a strong and fresh wind. Our sails must be ready. Thank you. [applause]

Al-Majali Addresses Meeting

JN2007130094 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1134 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Speech by Jordanian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali at the opening session of trilateral Jordanian-Israeli-U.S. talks at the Dead Sea Hotel in the Jordan Valley—live]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate [preceding phrase in Arabic] Secretary of State of

the United States Mr. Warren Christopher, Foreign Minister of Israel Mr. Shim'on Peres, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen, peace and God's blessings be upon you [preceding phrase in Arabic].

These are indeed vital and critical moments which historians shall cherish and poets shall relish. They will be recorded in the annals of history in block letters, for they separate at the edge between peace and war, construction and destruction, and even life and death.

Indeed, as you mentioned, Mr. Secretary, or Foreign Minister, 43 years ago on the same day, the very date, the founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan paid with his life the price of his vision of peace in the holy city of Jerusalem at al-Aqsa Mosque, at a time when emotions were running high and events were dictating violence and warfare. The late King 'Abdallah was the voice of reason, and the statesman who advocated wise judgment. His deep sense of belonging to his Sharifian Al al-Bayt lineage, and his strong attachment to this region account for his relentless efforts to achieve a just and honorable peace.

It is our duty here to cherish his memory by achieving the kind of peace and coexistence that he aspired and worked for.

Honorable guests, ladies and gentlemen:

The Jordan Valley where we stand right now is where history and geography marched hand in hand to shape the course of humanity. In this very place near the Dead Sea, men of dedication and brave hearts took upon themselves to call for the worship of God, to combat evil, and preached justice, equality, and respect of human dignity.

The good men of God eventually won and evil was buried under those heavy waters of the sea that we see.

Our meeting today is neither an accident nor a hasty last-minute get-together. Men of good hearts have invested several lifetimes to make it possible. We should dignify their toil with honorable peace that is just, permanent, and comprehensive.

This plenary session held in Jordan is the result of the meeting that was hosted by President Clinton in Washington D.C. between His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan Bin-Talal and Mr. Shim'on Peres on October 1st 1993. At that event, Crown Prince Hasan presented a global vision of peace that would be based on the conceptual framework of cooperation rather than a mere a listing of economic projects. Indeed, the introduction of this concept which has been absent from our vocabulary in this region for too long serve to underline the nature of the solid peace that we seek.

Technicians can always draw projects where cooperation can take place. It takes courage, creativity, and imagination, however, to lay the foundation for such cooperation.

Let us then contribute to the building of peace, which His Majesty King Husayn qualified as one which future generations can accept and build on. His majesty's vision of peace is one where all parties gain. It is not a zero sum effort. It is a peace that honors men and women to live in a secure world, free from poverty, hunger, and inequality. He has dedicated his life to pursue a defensible peace, where rifts are bridged and cooperation is based on mutual respect. Peace to his majesty means building societies, where democracy, freedom of expression, and pursuit of happiness are available to all without discrimination.

In less than a week, a major development that shall capture the fancy of the whole world is planned. President Bill Clinton and Mr. Thomas Foley will host His Majesty King Husayn and Mr. Yitzhaq Rabin at the White House and at the United States Congress. This truly historical moment should serve as the takeoff to a new era in the region, where peace and prosperity shall prevail. Washington should also be appreciated and thanked for its positive and constructive role in advancing the cause of peace and accelerating our march towards it. On September 14th 1993, both Jordan and Israel signed in Washington the common agenda. That agenda still arouses the admiration of experts for its subtlety, balance, and comprehensiveness. It reflected realism by addressing all issues of contention. It embodied hope, because it charted a transparent and tractable course of action, and it radiated optimism by focusing on human needs and aspirations.

The integrity and unity of that common agenda is the basic characteristic. While we may apply a step-by-step approach to deal with its articles, it must be implemented in its entirety. Building peace is like writing a book: It is carefully crafted, chapter by chapter. But, the book is never complete until all chapters are written and produced. The successful bilateral meetings, which occurred during the last two days in Wadi al-Arabah, stand as a witness that our focus should be placed on the substantial issues. The resolution of such issues is an essential part for the success of the peace process as a whole. The movement of negotiations to the region and in Jordan is clear indication of the concurrence of both Israel and Jordan to go all the way to chart a future not for themselves, but for the whole region.

We in Jordan, under the wise Hashemite leadership of His Majesty King Husayn, have given a lot for the cause of peace. This persistence on the path towards a better future entailed many sacrifices. Every war caused us huge losses in human lives, mass movements of people into Jordan, and loss of territory. We did more than our share in post-war stabilization at the expense of our limited resources. We continuously had to go through very painful adjustments to cope with substantial changes in our demography and geography. We fully realize the huge responsibility we have to shoulder in the maintenance of peace. This undertaking can be performed, but can only be borne by a strong and stable Jordan.

We in Jordan believe that comprehensive and just peace should have a human face. The long suffering of the Palestinian people and refugees should be ended and their rights must acknowledged and fairly dealt with. Security cannot be achieved while millions of Palestinians are denied their legitimate human rights. The sons of Abraham, may peace be upon him, are the adherents to the three monotheistic religions. They must resolve the issue of Jerusalem. Sovereignty over the holy places of Jerusalem is only for God, and in his name, we should respect and honor that right.

Mr. Christopher, Mr. Peres, ladies and gentlemen: Let us work for peace. The road is long and arduous, but dedicated men always walk it to the end towards a new dawn. Our trilateral meeting symbolizes the dedication of these concerned parties to wage peace. It also embodies the will of the world community as represented by the United States of America to make our region a valuable asset to the world. Let us hope that the achievements we score here are replicated on other tracks on negotiations for the assurances of its continuity.

Mr. Peres: Let us take this opportunity of our presence at this historical site to appeal to both of our people to transcend the conflicts of today and defy the state of siege in order to embark upon thinking of the harmony of tomorrow. From what I heard in your statement today, sir, it is clear to me that the creative thinking required to make real peace is there. The vision is slowly, but surely, becoming a reality. With sincerity and good will, the people of our two countries, as part of this region so long denied justice and security, will begin to enjoy the fruits of peace. We ask God, the omnipotent and the all merciful, to guide us on the rightful path for the good of all men and women of all ages. Thank you, sir.

News Conference Held

JN2007143394 Amman Jordan Television in English
1309 GMT 20 Jul 94

[News conference by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, Jordanian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres with foreign and domestic correspondents at the end of their trilateral meeting at the Dead Sea Hotel in the Jordan Valley; moderated by Jordanian spokesman Marwan al-Mu'ashshir—live]

[Text] [Christopher] Good afternoon, good afternoon again. Before taking any questions that you have, I will be reading the communique, which is a joint communique, issued by the three of us. So just cut off the press and I will read the communique to you now.

The U.S.-Israeli-Jordan trilateral economic commission held its fifth meeting on July 20th 1994 at the Dead Sea spa hotel in Jordan. At this meeting, the American delegation was headed by me, the Jordanian delegation was headed by Prime Minister al-Majali, and the Israeli

delegation by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. The three parties expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government of Jordan for hosting this historic meeting.

The trilateral committee, established in October 1993 under the auspices of president Clinton by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Foreign Minister Peres, reviewed recent progress in the peace process. The committee noted favorably the Israeli-Jordanian bilateral negotiations held in the region on July 18 and 19, 1994 and the intention to continue these discussions next month. The delegations reiterated their intention to energize efforts to promote further progress on the Israel-Jordan track, looking forward to the meeting between His Majesty King Husayn and Prime Minister Rabin in Washington on July 25th 1994.

The trilateral committee also reviewed recent progress on its work and reached agreements on a number of future activities. The delegations agreed in preparation for the meeting in the White House next week to work on a master plan for the development of the Jordan rift valley.

Meetings of experts earlier today indicated a substantial convergence of views on such a scheme and a common approach on proceedings. The experts will continue their meetings later today and tomorrow, and an international—pardon me—and inter-sessional meeting will be organized to unify the planning criteria and develop detailed terms of reference. The United States agreed to facilitate further the continued work on this master plan.

The trilateral committee also agreed to continue work on the trade, financing, banking, civil aviation, tourism, and on establishing a road link between the two countries.

On trade, the parties agreed on the establishment of a set of principles concerning the trade and the commercial relationships between the two parties in the context of the peace treaty.

On civil aviation, the parties agreed to establish a joint team to explore aviation routes serving the interests of both countries, as well as the interest of flight safety.

On tourism, the parties agreed on a travel and tourist arrangements and to establish a trilateral commission to facilitate cooperation in this area, specifically the opening of a crossing point in the Elat-al-'Aqaba area for tourists who are third country nationals.

Finally, the parties agreed to conduct a preliminary sight survey at a road linking Jordan, Israel, and Egypt in the vicinity of Elat in al-'Aqabah.

The three ministers agreed to meet again periodically in this region, starting in the near future. Inter-sessional meetings of experts will also be organized to continue work on specific projects.

Now, before I invite my colleagues to make a comment, and open the meeting to questions, I would like to say that I hope none of you will miss the true significance of today's meeting. I've worked rather closely with both the prime minister and the foreign minister but the striking fact is that this is the first time that they've publicly been able to meet and publicly they've been able to bring their great talents to working together. That is, I think, the true meaning of today. Now, you have these two distinguished public servants able to meet on a regular basis and work together to solve the problems of their countries, which are neighbors but have been estranged for a long time. And I think the language of the communique is important but the true meaning is the opportunity for the prime minister and the foreign minister to bring their great talents to the benefits of their countries.

Prime minister.

[Al-Majali] I believe sir, because of the short of time, I think it better to address questions to either, to any of the three of us, and that would be more helpful to everybody rather than having another speech.

[Unidentified correspondent, interrupting] Mr. Prime Minister....

[Al-Mu'ashshir, interrupting] In the interest. Please. In the interest of being fair to everybody, please, I will call upon all of you. If you want to pause a question, please raise your hand so we give a fair chance to everybody to ask. Caroline?

[Caroline] We've noticed from your speech today that you were trying to ignore anything concerning the problems and obstacles facing the negotiators. And you were talking happily about the future. Could you elaborate on that? That's number one. Number two is, we haven't heard anything from the Israeli Government concerning any kind of withdrawal from the Jordanian land and also the rights of water. On the other hand, we've been listening to a lot of speeches talking about the withdrawal from Golan Heights. Could you elaborate also on that?

[Peres] Well, I admit my sin. I really believe that we can overcome the difficulties. It's not for the first time, may I say, when the secretary of state raised the issue of meeting on the Jordanian land by the three of us half a year ago, it looked like an impossibility. And I believe that what happened in the last half year or so is very promising. I know that we have to deal with the problems. I would like, first of all, really to express my thanks to the prime minister of Jordan, for the very friendly and warm welcome, to the secretary of state, who took all the troubles to come here, and organize this meeting. And we are very serious. You know what, to tell you the truth, I have a sense of frustration that we waited so long. And I think all of us are interested to go ahead. Now to answer your question, the government of Israel does not intend to bite, in the slightest way, the respect, the sovereignty, and the land of Jordan.

We want an honorable peace. We want that our neighbors and partners will feel that they have had more than a fair deal for all of us because the foundation of peace is also friendship. Then again, we are, all of us, are short of waters, and even if we shall divide the rights we shall not have more water. What we need is more water, not only more rights. And while we do not deny the need to go into looking at the rights, we wouldn't like to postpone also the need to try and produce more water for all of us because all of us are short of water. Then, may I say that the nature of peace, as I can see it, is while economic consideration should not replace political positions; on the other hand, political positions must be supported by economic endeavors, enterprises for the benefit of all people.

So, I feel we are very serious. For me, it's a very moving day. Things that a year ago looked like a dream, and I feel like waking up in the morning, and I see that the dream is a reality.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Israeli TV.

[Israeli TV correspondent] Mr. al-Majali: A question for the Israeli Television, Channel One. Do you see Jordan signing a full peace treaty with Israel before Syria does?

[Al-Majali] I don't like to contribute to such things which is always in the media, who is signing before who. We believe [al-Majali knocks on the microphone] we believe, we believe—do you hear now? I do not contribute to this, who signs before who. Comprehensive peace is for the area. The area has to have a comprehensive peace for the good of everybody, for the good of Jordan, of Israel, of the Palestinians, the Lebanese, and the Syrians and the whole region. So who is to be signing first or second, this is immaterial. The main thing [is that] we have the thrust of peace on all four fronts. So, let us work on them. Every track has its own problems, has its own problems to be and difficulties, so the pace is different. So, one track could go on faster, and then, for some reason or another, stop, and the other. It is not a black and white thing. It's not a black and white thing.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] David Marvosky.

[David Marvosky] Do you see any possibility that at the ceremony at the White House next week, the three countries—well, say Jordan and Israel—will declare an end to the state of war? Do you see any other agreements being signed next Monday [25 July]? And second, I was just curious, the fact that the event—I'd like you to comment on Foreign Minister Peres' idea, which is: Do you believe that instead of arguing over water rights that the two sides will come together to do desalination plants and the like?

[Peres, interrupting] I didn't say instead; I said in addition to.

[Marvosky] OK.

[Al-Majali] I think he, Mr. Peres, has corrected you in saying that he said not instead. He is over, not only we

are discussing the shares of water, the rightful shares, we are discussing how to alleviate the shortage of water in all our area, especially first between the two countries. But to do this in Washington, to talk of this peace treaty and so on, it is once as I said in the speech, if we have this chapter and we are going to write every chapter, that will be completed. But that does not mean any chapter not to go into implementation once both sides agree on it. Let us say we agree on the water. We will be, if both sides agree to that, we will implement it before the combination of all this is the peace treaty which we hope to be as soon as possible. But when, it is not easy.

[Unidentified correspondent] Ending the state of war?

[Al-Majali] I think you are talking.... the war is behind. You cannot come and sit and negotiate peace with a state, with a brain, with a mind of war, or even the ideas or the possibilities. Take it out of your mind. Peace is state of mind between the two people, and I think you have had enough scenes on this today and the last week and in the rounds. It is there. So, it is not a matter of declaration. The declaration is done by. It is finished.

[Murid Hammad] Mr. Peres. I would like to ask you a question. By being here as the first Israeli official to come and hold talks in Jordan, can we say that Israel is willing to renounce forever the idea of Greater Israel and the idea of Jordan is Palestine?

[Peres] Well, let me say that by me coming for the first time to Jordan, I told the prime minister, I told the secretary that among all the negotiations we have held until now. The negotiations with Jordan enjoys the support of the whole country, of the whole Israel. I never saw such a deep and united support in Israel to really seek peace with Jordan, the Hashemite Jordan, in full respect. Greater Israel in my judgment today is not a matter of territory alone. I mean, to make a country great today, you have to look at its education, science, technology. As a matter of fact, Israel gave back land, if that is your reference, and giving is more than declaring. We gave back the land to Egypt. We have introduced a self-government in Gaza, we have indicated to the Syrians that we are ready for a territorial compromise. If you will unite all these factors, you will have the answer, and may I say that peace is not a mondial. We are not going to have one group winning. We are going to have all groups winning in understanding.

[Salman Tawil from the Arabic Service of Israeli Television Network, in Arabic] Dr. al-Majali, will Jordan be prepared to sign a peace treaty with Israel involving a compromise or is Jordan determined to obtain all its demands? How will such a peace treaty affect the Israeli-Syrian track? Assuming the talks on the Israeli-Syrian track collapses, will Jordan backtrack on the negotiations with Israel?

[Al-Majali, in Arabic] Jordan has no territorial designs on Israel. We want our territory and water back and to see outstanding issues resolved. As for movement or lack of it on the Syrian track, this falls in the realm of

speculation. The Jordanian and Israeli leaderships have decided to take the road to peace. The Syrian brothers are also moving; hopefully their moves will be so as to be in the spirit of this stage. I also hope to see movement on the Lebanese track as we did on the Palestinian track. We believe in a comprehensive settlement; but we will not link progress on one track with progress on the other tracks. The Arabs have accepted among themselves that each track can have its own peculiarities and can move on its own pace. I do not see any need for trial balloons. One can't say what will happen. Only a month back, this meeting of ours seemed unthinkable, but it did take place nonetheless. Given good faith and clarity on all sides, things can move forward quickly. Only greed leads to fighting. A reasonable and enlightened man will not covet the property of others. [Unidentified correspondents are heard in background asking for a translation of what was just said. Moderator is heard telling them "later."]

[Jonathan Christopher from UPI] Mr. Foreign Minister, now that you are finally here publicly, can you tell us about your meeting with the king on November third, what happened? How many times also have you been to Amman in Jordan, and have you ever climbed in Petra?

[Peres] Sir, we came here to make history not to write history. That we shall do later on.

[Unidentified correspondent] That's it?

[Peres] That's it, yes. [laughter]

[Unidentified correspondent] Prime Minister al-Majali, I would like to congratulate you about your beautiful speech. You mentioned that Minister Peres just spoke about honorable peace. What kind of peace between our countries do you foresee and what kind of relations? Are we due to a cold peace, a warm peace. What kind of relations?

[Al-Majali] I don't think there are certain thermometers which they take the temperature of peace, whether it is low or high. I think peace is peace. Peace means no problems, big problems, between two countries, and this is what we are driving for. Certainly it is not easy to reach all your goals, but there are short.... [pauses] You can be even shorter of the final goal. But there are lots of ways of doing this. The main thing is not to be aggressive or greed from your side on other sides, property, and rights. That's the good neighborhood. And in Arabic, in fact, it says: Treat people the way you like them to treat you. [preceding sentence in Arabic] Treat others in the same manner like you treat your own, you by the other. So, whether you are a neighbor, whether you are a brother, whether you are a cousin, that's the way we should take it and we should behave.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Please.

[Correspondent from Israeli economic newspaper] I would like to ask you, will you elaborate in economic cooperation before signing a peace agreement? And

when do you think you will be able to invite the private sector to implement the beautiful projects you are talking about?

[Al-Majali] Madame, already I said in my speech and if you read the speeches and not make your questions before and already it's been answered. I said it is a chapter. And once you write the chapter about economy and you believe that you can implement it, it's up to two parties to do so. But, the collection of these chapters will make the final one. We do not wait for everything else to move in the same way.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Christopher, you came from Syria this morning. Will you tell us about the results of your talks with President al-Asad? And do you think peace will take place between Syria and Israel before the end of this year? Thank you.

[Christopher] Yesterday, in Damascus, I met twice with the president. The first starting at 12 o'clock and going on to a little after 2 [o'clock] and then taking up again at 8:30 [o'clock] and going until well after 11 [o'clock]. What I can say about the conversations is that they were useful, valuable, serious conversations. I came away with an even stronger conviction that the parties are determined to pursue the possibility of peace. I had met just the prior a day with Prime Minister Rabin. It will be up to the parties as to the pace that they go forward. But what I can tell you is that they're absolutely serious about their endeavor. Whether it will reach its culmination before the end of the year in some kind of a document, I certainly hope so, but that will depend upon the parties. The United States can only play a facilitative role here. And I think that one of the indications as to pacing you might take from the fact that I intend to go back to Damascus on Friday [22 July], and I'll be seeing Prime Minister Rabin probably tomorrow.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Steven. CNN.

[Steven] Yes. I'd like to ask you first Prime Minister al-Majali and, if possible, if Israeli Foreign Minister Peres could also react. Could you talk to us about the pace—pace in the sense of changing the attitude of your people. As you are moving ahead, as quickly as you think prudent, you are also, it appears, meeting out to your publics, in a very gradual manner, information on how well the process is going. For example, today, your people thought it more prudent not to allow crews to film the arrival of the helicopters. Can you comment to us? Should you be telling your people more or less than you are now?

[Al-Majali] Well, Sir. We've been every step we take may be even different from any other place, we put everybody concerned in the picture, even in the media. I have met with the parliament, with the senate, with the government, with the officials in the various districts and I talked to them about the pace of peace and how we, where we are, and where we are heading and so on and so forth. This is no secret and in the media, if you read the Jordan papers you will find a lot of expression about the

peace. Certainly, you will read some articles from the rejectionists of peace, but the majority and the top, good majority are for the peace and they follow it. And, in fact, sometimes they predict things before they come. Just like the media, you know, they try to look things, even to create things before they are born. So, we are always with the public and to the public to know what's going on.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Mr. Kamil al-Sa'di [Amman radio correctly identifies correspondent as Ghazi, not Kamil al-Sa'di]

[Ghazi al-Sa'di, a Palestinian journalist writing for an Amman Arabic daily asks a question in Hebrew; Peres exchanges words with him in Hebrew, followed by laughter]

[Al-Mu'ashshir] We'll take the last question.

[Peres] I shall answer in English for the benefit of all. First of all, about the previous question, judging by the number of cameras, nobody can say that we keep peace as a secret. And I think it became an open occasion and we are very glad and very happy. By the way, my own feeling is that you do not have to prepare people for peace; they are ready. What you have is to convince them that this is a reality. And I think a meeting like it is a contribution to this conviction. Now on the questions you have asked, I said in Israel: I want to repeat here and I want to explain in a word why did I say it. They were some people in Israel who said that Jordan is Palestine and I made it clear: No, Jordan is Jordan, Jordan is not Palestine. In other words, we do not expect to solve the Palestinian problem in Jordan. What we really intend is to change our relations with Jordan without changing Jordan. Most of the Israelis, including myself, were sincere and strong supporters of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. We think it was a demonstration, in most cases, of responsibility, of a tested tradition, of a rather civilized way of running things. And I think some of us were forced, including you and us, to really follow uninvited occasions. We hope it won't happen any more in the future. We have a Palestinian problem and we are going to solve it in Palestinian towns; namely, to have an autonomy at the beginning in Gaza and Jericho, and later on to extend the autonomy to other places, either by early empowerment or otherwise.

I want to make clear to our Jordanian friends: We do not want anything in our relations from Jordan to replace the need to change our relations with Syria or to solve the Palestinian problem, and that is the reason why I say Jordan is Jordan and the Palestinian problem is a Palestinian problem.

Now clearly, in case of this, we do not want to take from Jordan her proper land or her proper water. What we have is to reach, in full agreement, in full daylight, the marking of the frontier between Jordan and ourselves. We shall have to go into many details, technical and otherwise but the principle of this is that no one of us will grab the land of the other or will take away the water of

the other. And we are looking, as I have said, for a fair, honorable solution. A war may last for a few days; peace must last for ever. So the solutions must be of a permanent nature.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Last question from Dan Avidan.

[Avidan] I would like to ask the three of you, if possible. After all, we are going to have this summit meeting next Monday [25 July] between Rabin and His Majesty King Husayn under the auspices of President Clinton and this would be a sort of a culmination of the process. What can we still expect to be achieved in this summit meeting, except for the psychological and overall general importance of it. Al-Majali said no announcement of nonbelligerency. I asked him before, he told no mutual recognition. Is any, tangible agreement would be produced out of this summit meeting? Thank you. For the acceptance of the king to visit Jerusalem, for example.

[Al-Majali] Anyway, I did not say there is nothing. You asked whether we have discussed this, I said no we did not discuss it, and I am very precise on this and accurate. So I did not say; you asked me: Did you do this, I said: No, we did not do it, we did not discuss it because even you asked me before we meet. So again there is another problem of yours not mine. The question will visit Jerusalem once peace prevailed, visits is the normal thing but don't.... [pauses] in Arabic we say: He who hasten things before its time, God will prevent him from having it. Not to try to push things before it is time. When it is time, it is right, it is delicious, it is good. If it is before its time; if you eat the apple before its time, you will get tummy cramp. So don't do that. So let us do things in the right thing, in the right time. Pushing from the media is not going to make it.

[Avidan] But you didn't answer [words indistinct] Dr. al-Majali, are you going to announce the end of nonbelligerency or mutual recognition between Israel and Jordan?

[Al-Majali] I said we did not discuss this?

[Avidan] Are you going to announce or King Husayn....

[Al-Majali, interrupting] We are not discussing, the summit meeting will announce what they are going to do. If I say it now there is no need for the summit. [laughter]

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Thank you, thank you very much ladies and gentlemen.

[Peres] I think the aim is not the end of belligerency, the aim is the beginning of peace. And I do believe that at the meeting of the king, the President, and the prime minister, the main declaration will be that this is the beginning of the peaceful period between our two countries with the full support of the United States. I think the meeting in itself has the value of a public declaration because the millions and millions of people all over the world, including in our two countries, will be able to see.

I can say for sure that the prime minister of Israel, Yitzhaq Rabin, when he will speak in Washington before the Congress, he will be able to say all parties in Israel, left and right, government and opposition, are anxious to have peace with the legitimate kingdom of Jordan, that our intentions are serious, and I think also the declaration may contain some elements that we didn't speak yet that may serve as the foundation of the peace in the future. I take it as a very serious event, I think it is a departure from the past. I wouldn't go just for a simple declaration to end the war, I think we have to go for the profound declaration: This is the beginning of peace.

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Thank you very much, ladies and gentlemen.

[Al-Majali] Ladies and gentlemen, ladies and gentlemen, please, let me say on behalf of my two colleagues here that we thank you all for your discipline, not for the many questions but for your attendance, your patience, and your questions, which enlightened the public, and we hope to see you again quite near in the future.

Al-Mu'ashshir: Talks 'Very Good'

JN2007200594 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1936 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Jordanian spokesman Marwan al-Mu'ashshir described the atmosphere at the talks as very good. He said a second round of talks by experts will be held tomorrow.

[Begin recording] [Al-Mu'ashshir] The atmosphere is very good. I think all three speeches stressed the point that we need to arrive at a comprehensive peace. We also stressed the point that there are legitimate Palestinian rights that have to be restored, and we also addressed the issue of Jerusalem and religious sovereignty over it, pointing out that sovereignty over religious sites should only be to God, as his majesty pointed out.

I think it's a very good atmosphere, a positive one. And I think all sides expressed a serious desire to achieve durable peace in the region.

[Murid Hammad, Jordan TV] This is the first time an Israeli official gets into Jordan to discuss such an issue. Did you detect any commitment on the Israeli side to peace and speeding up the peace process with regards to Jordan?

[Al-Mu'ashshir] Well, we're very hopeful that this is a new era and that all sides have to express the needed commitment to achieve a durable peace. We certainly hope that the Israeli side will be forthcoming on this point. [end recording]

Christopher Ends Visit, Departs

JN2107072894 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0700 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher today left Amman for Israel after a visit to Jordan during which

he held talks with His Majesty King Husayn and attended the meetings of the tripartite U.S.-Israeli-Jordanian economic committee which were held at the Dead Sea Hotel yesterday.

Christopher was seen off by Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali; Talal Sat'an al-Hasan, minister of state for foreign affairs; Fayiz al-Tarawinah, Jordan's ambassador in Washington; and Wesley Egan, the U.S. ambassador in Amman.

Experts To Resume Meetings

JN2107061094 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 0400 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The tripartite Jordanian-U.S.-Israeli economic committee will today resume its meetings at the Dead Sea Hotel on the level of experts. The experts participating in the meetings of the tripartite economic committee yesterday discussed a number of topics related to the prospects for economic cooperation in the fields of environment, energy, and tourism.

The final statement issued last night on the conclusion of the tripartite Jordanian-U.S.-Israeli economic committee which convened at the foreign ministers' level noted that the meetings of experts, which were held earlier yesterday, indicated a substantial convergence of views, particularly as regards the plan to develop the Jordan Valley and a common desire to execute that plan. The committee members also agreed to hold further meetings of experts to continue discussion of specific projects on the committees' agenda.

Economic Committee Meeting Planned

JN2107062394 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Jul 94 p 25

[Text] Amman—AL-RA'Y has learned from informed sources that it was agreed in principle to convene the sixth meeting of the tripartite Jordanian-U.S.-Israeli economic committee in November. The meeting will be held in the region, but no specific venue was named.

The sources expect the details on the dates and venues for the forthcoming tripartite meetings to be announced after the 25 July Washington summit, which will be attended by His Majesty King Husayn, U.S. President Bill Clinton, and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin.

Peres, Jordan's al-Majali To Meet in Mid-August

JN2107060594 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Jul 94 p 25

[Text] Amman—AL-RA'Y has learned from informed sources that it was agreed in principle to hold another bilateral meeting between Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, the prime minister and foreign minister, and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in mid-August.

The sources said the venue for the meeting has not been specified yet, but is expected to be somewhere on the borders, such as the Dead Sea area.

Sha'th Says 'Progress' Made in Bilateral Talks

NC2007162894 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—The Palestinian-Israeli negotiations for the early empowerment of the Palestinian side in the West Bank and Gaza, which lasted for three days, concluded here this afternoon.

Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation in the self-rule authority and head of the Palestinian delegation to the talks, stated at the conclusion of the talks that some progress was made. He added, however, that Israel insists on not giving real powers to the Palestinians in such fields as education; health; and social, administrative, and financial affairs. He added: If we are not given real powers in these domains, we prefer to go back to the interim agreement. He noted that the Israeli side wants to be in control of all aspects of the civil authority, which runs contrary to the Declaration of Principles and the spirit of the peace process.

Dr. Sha'th pointed out that he will meet later today with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa to review the difficulties facing the negotiations and ways to overcome them. Dr. Sha'th noted that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's visit to Gaza tomorrow morning is part of his trip to complete the peace process. He added: We believe that there are requirements for completing the peace process that the United States, as a major sponsor of the peace process, must undertake. Dr. Sha'th added: We have some questions that we need to ask the U.S. secretary of state, chief among them is the delay in implementing the Gaza-Jericho Agreement despite the negotiations taking place here in Cairo, in the handing over of the crossing points and the security corridor, in the release of Palestinian prisoners and detainees, and some other issues. He added: We want the U.S. sponsor to help us work out a method for solving problems. He noted that there is an agreement among the Palestinians and Israelis to solve the problems being negotiated peacefully.

Dr. Sha'th called on the United States to intervene to prevent the closure of the crossing points, adding that any problems could be solved under the procedures stipulated in the Gaza-Jericho Agreement. He pointed out that such problems fall within the jurisdiction of the joint security, civilian affairs, and liaison committees, which have not met for a long time. In addition, there are other ways to solve problems, such as arbitration, he said.

On the latest events in Gaza, Dr. Sha'th noted that they were the result of unemployment and the provocations that the Palestinian workers experience. He added: Israel deliberately closes the borders whenever there is a problem, which violates the Gaza-Jericho Agreement

and the spirit of the peace process and constitutes an act of hostility. However, we are against such incidents, regardless of who is responsible for them.

Dr. Sha'th noted that under an agreement with the donor states, Israel is supposed to let at least 20,000 Palestinian workers from Gaza work in Israel, but Israel has not done so thus far. Dr. Sha'th criticized the World Bank's treatment of the Palestinian Authority. He described the method of making specific transfers from the Holst Fund to the Palestinian Authority as futile, adding that so far only \$5 million has been transferred to the self-rule authority, which is far less than what the World Bank had promised to give. He called on the United States to provide more backing for the Palestinians.

Dr. Sha'th said that the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations will resume in Cairo on Monday [25 July].

Says Erez Incident To Affect Process

NC2007211794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation in the Palestinian self-rule authority, has emphasized that the incident at the Erez checkpoint was intended to blow up the peace process. He added that this incident will affect not only the peace talks but the entire peace process. He noted that he had repeatedly warned the Israelis about this issue.

Dr. Sha'th made these remarks after a meeting with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa this evening. Asked about Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' visit to Cairo tomorrow, Sha'th said: I have briefed Minister Musa on all the developments, whether in the self-rule areas or in the Palestinian-Israeli talks.

On the current Jordanian-Israeli talks, Dr. Sha'th said: The Palestinian side had hoped that Syria would hasten to enter the peace talks with Israel at the same time Jordan did so that no parties would be outside the negotiating process.

Israeli Delegation to Negotiations Departs Cairo

NC2007172194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1630 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—The Israeli delegation to the Palestinian-Israeli talks led by general coordinator Danny Rothschild left Cairo this evening at the end of a two-day visit to Egypt. The Palestinian side to the talks was headed by Dr. Nabil Sha'th, minister of planning and international cooperation in the Palestinian National Authority.

Inter-Arab Affairs

League Chief Meets With Oman, Djibouti Envoys

NC2007130694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid held a joint meeting today with 'Abdallah Bin-Hamad al-Busa'idi and Mohamed Hassan, representatives of the Sultanate of Oman and the Republic of Djibouti to the Arab league. Al-Busa'idi said after the meeting that the talks dealt with Arab and international issues, especially since Djibouti is currently a member of the UN Security Council.

Answering a question about his country's stand on the entry of some Yemenis to Oman, ambassador al-Busa'idi said that the Sultanate of Oman is in constant contact with Sanaa concerning these Yemenis. We are providing them with food and shelter, he added.

Al-Busa'idi denied reports about the presence of two ships carrying Yemenis off the Omani coast. He also denied that warplanes and gunboats had arrived in his country from Yemen. He reiterated the remarks of Omani Information Minister 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rawas to the effect that the hardware brought by the Yemeni refugees will be sent back to Yemen at a later date.

'Abd-al-Majid, Libyan Envoy Discuss Lockerbie

NC2007150694 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid today met with Ibrahim al-Bishari, Libya's permanent representative to the Arab League and general coordinator of Egyptian-Libyan relations. The discussions during the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Lockerbie issue.

Al-Bishari said his meeting with Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid falls within the context of coordination and consultations between Libya and the Arab League. He expressed the hope that the Western states concerned with this issue will accept the decision that has been unanimously adopted by the Arab League Council, stressing that the Libyan stance is objective.

In his statement, the Libyan envoy praised the tremendous role being played by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak in resolving the Lockerbie issue. He expressed the hope that the big powers will reconsider their stance on this issue. Al-Bishari said that Libya has gone a long way in its compliance with the UN resolutions, adding that Libya has demonstrated flexibility and objectivity in this regard. He expressed Libya's appreciation for the efforts being made by the Arab League General Secretariat to solve this problem.

Arab Forces Conference Condemns Embargo on Iraq

JN1907200794 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1515 GMT
19 Jul 94

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Jul (INA)—The General Secretariat of the Arab Popular Forces Conference has reiterated its condemnation of the continued unfair blockade which has been imposed on Iraq for four years.

In a statement to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY, Sa'd Qasim Hammudi, the conference's secretary general, said the isolation of the U.S. position has increased due to the collapse of the rancorous U.S. allegations concerning the blockade on the Iraqi people, stemming from conspiratorial political motives, now that Iraq has fulfilled its legal commitments toward Resolution 687, particularly Part C. This requires the Security Council to implement Article 22 of this resolution and lift the embargo on Iraq's oil exports.

Hammudi urged the vanguards, vibrant forces, and militant masses of Arabism throughout the great Arab homeland to increase pressure on the U.S. Administration and on those supporting its mean position. He also urged the Arab League and its member governments to lift the unfair Arab blockade on Iraq and to immediately and completely end the suffering of 20 million Iraqis who are being subjected to a war of starvation and annihilation in violation of all international and humanitarian charters.

Islamic Affairs

Iran Calls For ICO Meeting on Bosnia-Herzegovina

LD2007200894 Tehran IRNA in English 1942 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] Abu Dhabi, July 20, (IRNA)—Deputy of Iranian mission to Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) [ICO] Asghar Manousi today in a meeting with the Executive Secretary of the Organization Othman Moutari [name as received] in Jeddah expressed Iran's readiness for organizing the emergency meeting of foreign ministers of OIC's contact group concerning the Bosnian issue.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic has recently called on the Organization of the Islamic Conference to set up an emergency meeting to discuss the new development in his country.

Moutari praised the Islamic Republic's stance towards the Bosnian issue and said that among the members of the contact group the Islamic Republic has been the first country to give positive reply to the call of OIC and the Bosnian president.

He underlined that as soon as the other members' viewpoints were known, the final decision regarding time and place of the meeting will be announced.

Palestinian Affairs

PNA Member Views Erez Trouble, Peace Talks

NC2107073494 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0510 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Telephone interview with Ilyas Frayj, member of the Palestinian National Authority, by Fawzi al-Jundi; place and date not given; from "The Dialogue From Afar" program—recorded]

[Text] [Al-Jundi] We welcome you as our guest on the Voice of the Arabs.

[Frayj] Thank you very much.

[Al-Jundi] Ilyas Frayj, after the recent bloody incidents at the Erez crossing, do you believe such incidents might affect the course of peace between Israel and the Palestinian leadership?

[Frayj] First, I believe the course of peace between the Palestinian leadership and Israel will continue according to the agreements signed in the White House and in Cairo, despite all the difficulties, obstacles, and tragedies. Peace is a strategic plan that we, the Palestinian leadership, have [words indistinct]. There is no alternative to peace and the continuation of the peace process. The tragic events at the crossing point were very painful incidents. I want my brothers throughout the Arab world to know that the average unemployment rate among the Palestinian workers is about 40-50 percent, depending on the region. This is very high.

Second, there are some crossing points that cannot be crossed to leave the region unless the Israeli authorities approve it. This is akin to a security and economic cordon on every level.

[Al-Jundi] The novel thing about the recent incidents is that they are the first to have taken place with the Palestinian National Authority [PNA] present on Palestinian territory. Could we say that this may change the course of relations between the Palestinian leadership and Israel, leading them to review the issue of the crossings?

[Frayj] We ask Israel to relax the measures imposed on Palestinian citizens who wish to use the crossing points. This is the only solution. If Israel continues to tighten measures on the crossing points and the Palestinians, I expect the tragic events to be repeated, because unemployment is high and for the sake of a job so that he might feed his family and children, a man will sacrifice anything. I fear an intifadah that is the intifadah of the hungry. We have tens of thousands of workers who are unemployed. They have no prospects of getting any income.

[Al-Jundi] We move in our dialogue to other details currently under discussion in the Middle East arena. Let us look at the Syrian and Jordanian tracks of the negotiations with Israel. Christopher is continuing his shuttle

trips hoping to overcome Syrian-Israeli differences over the Golan Heights. Jordanian-Israeli trilateral ministerial meetings were held yesterday on the Jordanian track under U.S. sponsorship by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher. Could we say here that a breakthrough could take place in the Syrian arena after the breakthrough on the Palestinian track and the recent breakthrough on the Jordanian track?

[Frayj] I hope and I wish that this will happen. I believe that President Hafiz al-Asad wants to establish a comprehensive and just peace. But Syria will not accept signing a peace agreement without retrieving all the occupied Syrian territory. Just as Egypt retrieved all its occupied territory including Taba, so Syria is entitled to retrieve all its occupied territory in the Golan Heights.

As for the Jordanians, an agenda has been signed between the two sides. This week many meetings took place. The most important factor of dispute between Jordan and Israel will be that of sharing the water. We have an extreme shortage of water; even in Bethlehem we are suffering a terrible water crisis. But I believe Jordan will reach agreement with Israel within months. I believe that any Arab agreement with Israel will strengthen the Israeli-Palestinian Agreement. I believe that before the end of 1995, peace in the region could be realized and the age of war will end. The age of peace, construction, and an improvement in the standard of living for all the people and countries in the region will begin.

[Al-Jundi] Dear Arab brothers, we thank our guest PNA member Ilyas Frayj, who was talking to us now on the telephone. The Voice of the Arabs thanks you and always welcomes you on its airwaves.

[Frayj] Thank you. I wish to thank you personally and the Voice of the Arabs. We always listen to the Voice of the Arabs. We salute Egypt and its people for everything they have done for us and on which they have helped us.

PNA Justice Minister Blames Israel for Erez Events

NC2107111794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Gaza, 21 Jul (MENA)—Furayh Abu-Middayn, minister of justice in the Palestinian National Authority [PNA], has blamed Israel for the incidents on the border points. He said Israel is not acting with the spirit of peace or the spirit that should prevail in the region after the peace process.

In an interview with MENA, Abu-Middayn said: We are trying to be neighbors with Israel and to work together within the framework of peace and security. We have no ambitions but seek to retrieve our land and rights and build our independent state.

He affirmed that the recent Erez incident is a result of the siege. Neither Hamas nor anyone else is behind this incident. He pointed out that Israel is issuing work

permits to 20,000 workers and then allowing only 6,000 through, leaving the rest to starve to death.

Abu-Middayn said the Palestinians will follow the Egyptian example in setting up the structure of their ministries, because it is the system closest to their nature. The imprint of the Egyptian Administration in the Gaza Strip is strong and powerful. This imprint is strongly felt, particularly in legislation.

The PNA justice minister added: We need legislation that meets our needs concerning openness to the rest of the world and that adapts to current changes, particularly in investment.

He clarified that after only two months of the self-rule agreement, we have established security. This has encouraged many local and foreign companies to apply for work in the investment field.

Abu-Middayn said: We are facing many challenges and problems, greater than the challenges of war. These are external challenges, not local. During the past two months we have faced a campaign of Western media reports that bloody conflicts and massacres will take place among the Palestinians. This has not happened. We have gone 90 percent of the way toward establishing security.

He stressed that all the parties are concerned about national unity. Everyone realizes that if the peace process that started in Gaza does not succeed, the entire peace process will fail.

Source Views Causes of Security Incidents in Gaza

NC2007155394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Rafah, Palestine, 20 Jul (MENA)—A Palestinian security source has said that the security cordon is still being imposed on the Gaza Strip ever since the incidents that occurred there three days ago, which left several Palestinians dead or wounded.

The source said that the incidents were predictable in view of the difficult economic circumstances, the continuing blockade on Gaza, and the ban on the entry of Palestinian workers to Israel. The Palestinian source added that during the 27-year occupation the Israeli authorities turned Gaza into a place to export manpower only and did not construct any projects to absorb the strip's labor.

The source added that the incidents also occurred because of the brutal treatment and abuse of the Palestinians at the crossing points; many have had to wait for hours and then have been forced to return to the Strip. The source asked: What do you expect of someone who does not find his daily food?

Police Hold Suspects in Rafah Attack

TA2107045894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 0400 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Palestinian police in Gaza have apprehended several suspects believed to have been involved in Tuesday's [19 July] ambush of an Army patrol near Rafah. An IDF [Israel Defense Forces] officer was killed in that attack. Palestinian police forces have also destroyed the house in Gaza's Tall al-Sultan neighborhood where the terrorists laid their ambush. Lieutenant Gay 'Ovadya, who was fatally shot in the attack, was buried yesterday at Kibbutz Yotvata in the 'Arava desert.

Brigadier General Yom-Tov Sami today ends his duties as head of the Israeli team to the Israeli-Palestinian joint security committee. He is replaced by Brig. Gen. Dov Gazit. The Palestinian police commanders praised Sami's work at a farewell reception yesterday. One officer also spoke highly of the restraint IDF officers showed during the violence earlier this week at the Erez checkpoint between Gaza and Israel. The Palestinian police commander, Nasr Yusuf, said a solution to ending the closure on Gaza had been found. He would not elaborate.

Police Personnel Wages Reportedly Cut by 25 Percent

NC2007152494 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Gaza, 20 Jul (MENA)—Palestinian police sources said here today that it has been decided to cut the wages of the police corps in the self-rule authority by 25 percent. According to the new wage scale, the salary of a policeman has become \$450 instead of \$600, and the new salary of a major in the police corps is \$1,000.

This new measure has been prompted by the difficult financial and economic conditions facing the self-rule authority and by delays in the arrival of financial aid that has been promised to President 'Arafat.

Hamas, DFLP Cited on Operations Against Israelis

JN1907181894 Damascus Syrian Arab Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Clashes between the Arab citizens and the occupation troops have escalated in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in the wake of the massacre carried out by the occupation troops the day before yesterday at the Erez crossing point in the Gaza Strip.

The city of Hebron witnessed clashes today that resulted in the injury of two Palestinians. The occupation authorities imposed a curfew on the city.

In one of the suburbs of Rafah in the Gaza Strip, an Israeli officer was killed today when his patrol came under a machine-gun attack. Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] claimed the attack.

Another Israeli patrol came under a machine-gun attack near the camp of Jabalya. Consequently, a patrol vehicle broke down and all those in it were injured. The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has claimed responsibility for this operation, saying it was in retaliation against the crime committed by the occupation forces against the Palestinian workers near the Erez crossing point.

In another statement, the DFLP said the Erez massacre confirms that the Oslo-Cairo accord is planted with mines and not viable and that the intifadah of the Gaza workers confirms the continuation of the struggle of the people of Palestine against the occupation and the humiliating agreement. The DFLP rejected calls for convening the Palestine National Council under occupation and submission to the Israeli dictates and the substance of the Oslo deal. [passage omitted]

Hamas Warns Palestinian Commander Against Harassment

JN2107110194 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The Islamic Resistance Movement, Hamas, today warned Major General Nasr Yusuf, commander of the Palestinian police force, that civil war will take place if he represses the movement's activities. This came in a statement Hamas distributed in the Gaza Strip.

Al-Husayni: No Jordan-Israel Pact Without Palestinians

TA2007142194 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1100 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Interview with Faysal al-Husayni, member of the Palestinian National Authority, by correspondent Yoram Kohen in Jerusalem on 20 July—recorded]

[Text] [Kohen] Are you and the Jordanians conducting a dialogue on the Jerusalem issue?

[Al-Husayni] We are, and that is why I do not think Israel and Jordan can attain an agreement without the Palestinians.

[Kohen] The confederation idea has reemerged now that Israel and Jordan are in the midst of a dialogue. Is confederation acceptable to the Palestinians at this stage?

[Al-Husayni] I think confederation with Jordan is the ideal solution. This belongs to the future, however, and all other solutions are only good for the present.

Minister Welcomes Progress on Jordanian Peace Track

TA2007183294 Jerusalem Israel Television Channel 1 Network in Hebrew 1700 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Interview with Ahmad Quray', minister of economy and trade in the Palestinian Authority, by correspondent Yoram Kohen on 20 July; place not given—recorded, in Arabic with Hebrew subtitles; processed from the Arabic]

[Text] [Quray'] As long as progress is not achieved on all tracks, this means that the peace process will remain incomplete. Therefore, we welcome the progress being made on the Jordanian track and wish it success.

[Kohen] So, in your opinion the Oslo and Cairo agreements between Israel and the Palestinians opened the door to an agreement between Jordan and Israel?

[Quray'] Undoubtedly, as is common knowledge, the Palestinian problem is the core of the problem in the region. The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is the problem. The Arab-Israeli conflict is the result of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Therefore, any progress on the Palestinian-Israeli track has an impact on the entire region.

[Kohen] Especially in Jordan?

[Quray'] In the whole region. In Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the Gulf, North Africa, and in the entire region.

[Kohen] There might be fear that the talks between Israel and Jordan will adversely affect the talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

[Quray'] Why? I do not believe this is the case whatsoever. I believe that progress in the talks on the Jordanian-Israeli track helps the Israeli-Palestinian track. Naturally, progress on the Jordanian-Israeli negotiating track helps the implementation and application of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement in a sound and correct manner.

[Kohen] Abu-al-'Ala', there is a struggle between you and King Husayn on control over the Dome of the Rock.

[Quray'] This is a problem between us and Jordan. I do not see any difficulties. The difficulties and complications stem from Israeli measures and policy.

Al-Masri Reportedly Resigns From Authority Council

JN2107063594 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 21 Jul 94 p 24

[Text] Jericho, the Self-Rule Area, QUDS PRESS—A minister in the Palestinian National Authority running the self-rule in Gaza and Jericho has revealed that a member of the National Authority Council has resigned his post.

The minister, who preferred anonymity, told QUDS PRESS that Munib al-Masri, a well-known Palestinian

businessman, recently submitted his resignation from the council to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Orient House Criticizes 'Campaign' in Jerusalem

TA2007150594 *Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic*
20 Jul 94 p 2

[Text] Jerusalem—Faysal al-Husayni's office in Orient House issued a press statement yesterday in which it expressed its concern about Israeli statements on Palestinian activities in Jerusalem. These statements have begun to take the shape of an organized campaign against Palestinian institutions in the eastern part of the city.

The statement said that this campaign has in practice resulted in a number of measures, including a series of legal and administrative steps, foremost of which is the Israeli Government's decision to reduce the activities of Palestinian institutions in Jerusalem, with special emphasis on political activities.

The statement added that these new policies are a clear attempt to create a fait accompli in the city, leading ultimately to its isolation from the rest of the West Bank.

The statement said that the Israeli measures constitute a violation of the spirit of the Palestinian-Israeli accords, which clearly stipulate that Jerusalem's status will be discussed two years after implementation of the Gaza-Jericho First agreement and within context of the final status of the occupied Palestinian territories.

Moreover, these measures constitute a violation of the Israeli commitment not to interfere in the activities of Palestinian institutions in East Jerusalem. This commitment was contained in the secret letter to Norwegian Foreign Minister Johan Jorgen Holst in October 1993 and was published in June 1994.

Orient House stressed that its activities are not related to the Palestinian National Authority and that, in fact, these activities fall within framework of a comprehensive peace process, which aims at achieving peace from all political and other aspects.

The statement said that Orient House existed before the Oslo and Cairo accords and will remain in its present form as long as the peace process has not reached the final status negotiations. These negotiations will realize for the Palestinians sovereignty and establish for them an independent state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with Jerusalem as its capital.

PLO Official Criticizes Israeli Policy on Jerusalem

AU2007120894 *Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German* 19 Jul 94 p 7

[Report by Hans Lebrecht: "The Opportunity for Peace Must Not Be Wasted"]

[Text] Sulayman al-Najjab represents the Palestinian People's Party (PPP), formerly the Communist Party, in the PLO Executive Committee. Arrested and tortured for illegal party activities and undermining the Israeli occupation regime in 1974, he was released as a result of international protests, but forcibly deported. Only recently was he allowed to return to his village of Djiibiya near Bir-Zeit.

At the beginning of the year, PPP representatives at the Madrid and Washington peace talks refused to participate in any further Palestinian-Israeli negotiations. Sulayman al-Najjab, who was to take up a seat on the Palestinian "self-rule authority" chaired by Yasir 'Arafat, has still not done so. Why not?

"We supported the declaration on the principles and the agenda on further peace talks that the PLO leadership and Israel agreed in Oslo and signed in Washington," al-Najjab points out. But various essential points agreed in Cairo afterwards contradict the Oslo agreement: "The highly important issues of Jerusalem's future and the settlements established in our territory since 1967, as well as the problem of the expellees were postponed in Cairo to the final phase of the peace process. We fear that this might mean putting these issues off for good. For, meanwhile the Israeli Government has stepped up its settlements, the Arab population of East Jerusalem is being driven out, and houses and land are being seized and given to Israeli settlers and Talmud schools. Ever new measures are adopted to isolate Jerusalem from the rest of the occupied West Bank. That is a flagrant contradiction to the promise contained in the Oslo Agreement that the final solution of the conflict will be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973)."

These resolutions demand Israel's withdrawal from the Arab territories that it has been occupying since 1967. According to the Oslo Agreement, the transition period was to be used for preparing the implementation of the resolutions. The Cairo Agreement is, however, no longer based on the same principles, and that is why the PPP cannot support it, [he said].

The PLO politician accuses the Israeli side of wanting to eternalize control of all Palestinian territories west of the Jordan River. Following the "success" of the Gaza-Jericho Agreement, Israel is trying to get away with conceding a few more "pockets" of restricted Palestinian "self-rule." That could mean that the Palestinians are granted "pockets" similar to Jericho in Nablus, Bethlehem, Ramallah, or Hebron, which would be free from the Israeli army, but not from Israeli sovereignty. The Oslo Agreement says, however, that the Gaza-Jericho phase should immediately be followed by agreements on Israeli withdrawal from the entire West Bank except Jerusalem and that the "territorial integrity" of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip should not be touched during this transitional period. Establishing further "pockets"

would mean a dismemberment of the Palestinian territory, aimed at securing Israeli control over all of Palestine.

Asked about the difficulties of establishing Palestinian industry, al-Najjab said that during its 27-year occupation, Israel had been aiming at destroying the entire economic basis and the social infrastructure deliberately and purposefully. After the Oslo Agreement, a number of Palestinian capitalists abroad were enthusiastic about possible industrial installations in a free Palestine. When the Cairo Agreement was concluded, this enthusiasm reached zero level, because it became apparent that the very conditions that had not allowed them to invest their capital in the occupied territories in the past continued to apply. At the economic talks, Israel quite openly talks about "help" in the form of U.S. capital investment,

about European investment "help", and about Israeli businesses wanting to invest capital in the Palestinian "self-rule" territories. Palestinian investment capital is, however, excluded.

Sulayman al-Najjab is convinced that any "solution" that contradicts the Security Council resolutions on the complete withdrawal from the occupied territories is bound to fail. "There is no future in a peace dictate that is not in line with the just and vested rights and the national aims of the Palestinians. It will only drive more people into the arms of extremist circles that are trying to sabotage the peace process." Al-Najjab does say, however: "We, who are among the progressive and consistent peace forces in Palestine, will do everything we can to prevent the current opportunity for peace from being wasted."

Algeria

Response To French-U.S. 'Plan' Considered

MM2007145994 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic
20 Jul 94 pp 1, 4

[Report by Hamid Salimi: "U.S.-French Plan Prompts Leadership Meeting. Algeria: Zeroual 'Almost Isolated' Within Military Command"]

[Excerpt] London, Cairo, AL-HAYAH—Concern continued in Algeria yesterday over the fate of the three Arab diplomats (two Yemenis and an Omani) who were abducted last Friday [15 July]. Meanwhile AL-HAYAH received information about a U.S.-French meeting aimed at securing a "final" joint formula on how to resolve the Algerian crisis. It has been learned that the meeting took place in Paris a few days ago between U.S. and French officials.

It seems that the French side continues to insist on giving qualified economic support to Algeria and on watching the situation until the French elections, which will be held in the middle of next year, are over. The French believe that resolving the Algeria crisis would have a direct impact on the results of the French presidential election, in which 2 million Algerians holding French nationality will participate.

As for the U.S. side, it has been learned that they insisted on linking the political solution to the economic solution and on broadening the "government base in Algeria" to include the Islamists not involved in violent acts.

The U.S. and French sides agreed to assign experts from the two sides to prepare a plan to resolve the crisis. It will be studied in September.

Reliable Algerian sources have told AL-HAYAH that the information the Algerian leadership has received about the French-U.S. plan is "very worrying" and has prompted a high-level secret meeting of senior Army commanders. It was chaired by Liamine Zeroual, president of the republic and defense minister. Participants studied "possible alternatives" in order to confront the Western plan.

It has been learned that President Zeroual "vehemently" defended at the meeting his plan urging a dialogue with "the influential parties on the political scene without excluding any party." He recalled his pledge to Salvation Front leaders and Algerian and world public opinion to commit to this line. He also said that "no qualitative move to secure a way out of the crisis can be made unless there is national reconciliation as soon as possible."

It has been learned that most of the Army commanders participating in the meeting objected to dialogue or so-called "national reconciliation." They said that pursuing this line could gradually remove the reins of power from the present authorities. They also said that the "right" road to a solution is to eliminate the "crisis" by

"opting for all-out confrontation by all available means." One participant said that President Zeroual had left the meeting "almost isolated."

There has been clear backtracking in President Zeroual's recent speeches. It seems that he is facing "strong pressures" from his military environment, which is currently making "unprecedented" active moves.

Algerian sources listed numerous parties which they say have played a "vital role" in forcing Zeroual to take a hard-line position. The sources said that these parties include the following:

1. Major General Khaled Nezzar, who still has strong influence among some leading Army generals.
2. Maj. Gen. Mohamed Touati, who is regarded as Maj. Gen. Khaled Nezzar's ideas man. He has long been a special adviser to Nezzar.
3. Maj. Gen. Larbi Belkhair, who once ran the government for many years in the days of President Chadli Bendjedid. Some circles say that he "launched" the crisis Algeria is currently experiencing, namely by canceling the results of the parliamentary elections, disbanding the Islamic Salvation Front, and opening "concentration camps" and detention centers in the Algerian desert.

Salvation Front leaders abroad say that Belkhair "is still ruling behind the scenes" by virtue of the relationship of trust that he has built with the most important commanders of the services and the Army.

Khaled Nezzar, Mohamed Touati, and Larbi Belkhair represented the most influential elements in drawing up the "all-out confrontation" with the armed Islamic groups.

There are reports that these three parties are currently thinking of replacing the power pyramid. The reports expect Maj. Gen. Mohamed Touati to emerge, as some French circles describe him, as "the man to resolve" the crisis. Some sources say that this factor probably caused the French to slow down with regard to the issue of "dialogue and national reconciliation," which cannot guarantee "ethnic, cultural, and geographical" ambitions. [passage omitted]

Meeting Sought With Premier on Envoy Disappearances

LD2007215594 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Excerpt] The Arab ambassadors in Algeria held a third meeting yesterday, Wednesday [20 July], to discuss the disappearance of the ambassadors of Oman and Yemen in Algeria last Friday. During the meeting the ambassadors reviewed the efforts of the Algerian authorities to throw some light on the obscure aspects of the incident.

The ambassadors requested a meeting with the Algerian prime minister, Mokdad Sifi, as soon as he returns from

Spain. The ambassadors also called for the need to provide additional security for ambassadors in Algeria. [passage omitted]

Dembri on Dialogue, Ties with Morocco, Libya

NC2107080094 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0604 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Excerpts] Cairo, 21 Jul (MENA)—[passage omitted] In an interview with AL-JUMHURIYAH today, Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Salah Dembri said: We are determined to build a joint economy by encouraging investment to set up integrated projects in Egypt and Algeria. [passage omitted]

On the varying views of the United States and Algeria on assessing the situation in Algeria, Dembri said the current situation there is now known to U.S. officials, especially the nature and objectives of dialogue among the Algerian political forces.

He noted that there is no room in this dialogue for anyone who uses violence and terrorizes the Algerian people and threatens their security and stability.

He praised his country's relations with Morocco and said his country's stance on the Sahara issue is that Algeria only noted the topics that should be dealt with according to the various international resolutions. Algeria, he added, also noted that a political solution may be reached through negotiations in or outside the context of a referendum if each side uses its political wit.

On his country's relations with Libya, the Algerian foreign minister said that a misunderstanding caused by some Libyan statements has been contained. He added that bilateral relations will witness qualitative progress in the coming months.

Speaker, Iraqi Envoy Discuss Bilateral Ties

LD2007165194 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] A statement by the Transitional National Council said that the council's speaker, Mr. Abdelkader Bensalah, today received the Iraqi ambassador to Algeria. The meeting was an opportunity to discuss bilateral relations, particularly those dealing with boosting parliamentary ties. They also discussed problems dealing with current developments on the international sphere and issues of mutual interest.

APS Journalist Assassinated in Bou Saada

LD2107112194 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Security authorities have announced that Mohamed Lamine Laghoui, an APS journalist, was shot dead last night near his home in Bou Saada. The 49-year victim is a father of five children.

Sifi Comments on Transition Period, Elections

LD2107134694 Madrid RNE-1 Radio Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Report on news conference given by Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi in Madrid on 21 July]

[Text] Good afternoon. Algerian Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi has given guarantees about the security of the 300 Spaniards in the Spanish colony in Algeria. He added that his government is going to negotiate with all of the opposition, including the Islamic fundamentalists groups which do not resort to terrorism, in a three-year transition period leading to elections.

[Begin Mokdad recording in progress, in French] which reject violence and which will work toward preparing elections during this three year-long transition period which could be shortened if political, economic, and social stability were secured before this date. [end recording]

He explained that the elections would be held before the three years are up if there is sufficient stability before the transition period ends. Although both parties insist that there was neither a request nor an offer of mediation, the Spanish Government believes that it is very important to work with the Algerian Government and that this should be done discreetly.

Algerian Prime Minister Mokdad Sifi also said that the gas pipeline through Morocco and Gibraltar will be built in 1996.

Egypt

Musa Reportedly Urges Diplomatic Contacts With Iraq

NC2107055594 Paris AFP in English 2236 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, July 20 (AFP)—Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa said Egypt and Iraq should resume diplomatic contacts for the "good of the Muslim world," the semi-official newspaper AL-AHRAM reported Thursday [21 July].

"Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati and (I) agreed that we could close the page of the past," Musa was cited as telling a gathering of 1,500 Muslim clerics from around Egypt at the end of their first conference here.

Iran cut its ties with Egypt in 1979, after it signed a peace treaty with Israel, and gave refuge to Iran's deposed shah.

In recent years, Egypt has repeatedly accused Iran of supporting militant Muslim groups which have wracked the country since 1992 with a violent campaign aimed at toppling the secular government.

Musa and Velayati met here last month at the Non-aligned Movement foreign ministers meeting, but few details emerged from their talks. A slight easing of tensions appeared after the meeting.

Last week, Iran sent a high-level economic committee to Cairo to discuss with Egyptian officials economic cooperation and mutual investment possibilities.

Peres To Arrive in Cairo 21 Jul for Talks

NC2007114594 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1105 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—Official talks between Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and his Israeli counterpart Shim'on Peres will begin tomorrow, Thursday [21 July].

Musa said the talks will start as soon as the Israeli minister arrives in Cairo. He said the talks will deal with current developments in the Middle East peace process and efforts to advance the talks on all negotiating tracks.

Musa said developments in Gaza and the West Bank and relations between Egypt and Israel will also be discussed.

MENA has learned that President Husni Mubarak is expected to receive Mr. Peres.

Mubarak Expresses Hope for Progress

NC2007164194 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has expressed hope for progress on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks of the peace talks and for a just and comprehensive peace in the region. Pointing to the progress made on the Palestinian and Jordanian tracks, President Mubarak said that all the exchanges he makes are designed to further the peace process.

President Mubarak pointed out that he will receive Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres tomorrow, Thursday, and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher on Saturday [23 July]. He added that he will meet with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in the near future.

The president said that Egypt aims to defend Arab legitimate rights and promote a historic peaceful coexistence among the nations of the region. Peace would help these nations achieve a better life, he added.

This was stated by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif following a reception hosted today by Defense Minister Field Marshal Muhammad Husayn Tantawi to mark the graduation of a new class of the Military College. President Mubarak attended the reception.

The information minister said that President Mubarak discussed the recent bloody events in Gaza. The president said that such regrettable incidents should not be allowed to recur, nor should they present an obstacle to the new reality emerging following the agreement

between Israel and the Palestinians. Both sides should adjust for the new reality created by the Palestinian-Israeli peace agreement.

The information minister said that President Mubarak also spoke about the economic reform policy. President Mubarak said that economic reforms aim to serve the interests of the public. The president said that the Egyptians have understood the need for reforms and have accepted the attendant burdens because the government kept them well-informed about the reform process.

President Mubarak said that unless absolutely necessary no new burdens will be implemented. He pointed out that economic reforms are being calibrated to society's abilities and interests.

Minister al-Sharif said that President Mubarak stated that Egypt is independent in its political and economic decisionmaking. Egypt's international relations, Mubarak said, are based on mutual respect and a clear view of the country's objectives. This applies to our dealings with all countries and international organizations, the president declared. [passage omitted]

Israel's Weizman Phones Mubarak

NC2007172394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1656 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak tonight received a telephone call from Israeli President Ezer Weizman on the occasion of Egypt's celebration of the 23 July revolution anniversary.

Commentary Urges Israel To Make 'Brave Decisions'

NC2007172294 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Commentary by 'Atif 'Umar: "Peace Awaits Brave Decisions"]

[Text] It would be wrong to assume that U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher packed, as he left for the region, a magic wand that will resolve the Middle East crisis and end 46 years of Arab-Israeli conflict.

Recently, there have been limited successes on the Palestinian-Israeli front, culminating in the visit by Palestinian Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Gaza to mark the beginning of the implementation of the self-rule agreement in Gaza and Jericho. These limited successes, however, fall short of meeting the aspirations of the Palestinian people, who have made it clear that they are willing to live peacefully side by side with the Israeli people in the Arab occupied territories.

All Arab leaders have expressed their acceptance of peace on one condition: Peace should be based on justice, otherwise it will not endure. The stone-throwing children in the occupied territories will grow up to be the

leaders of the Palestinians. Unless the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is satisfactorily resolved, the fate of the region will be subject to tribulations that the Israelis and the Palestinians can do without.

Years of conflict show that, regardless of military preparedness, continued tension in the region leads to a lack of security, stability, and prosperity. The arms race, pursued vigorously by all the sides of the conflict, saps the material resources and undermines the human potential of the region. This is why Arab leaders have consistently expressed a true desire for a comprehensive peace, one that is based on the exchange of land for peace.

International efforts to take out the Middle East region from the world's map of troubled zones continue. Tension in the region jeopardizes the vital interests of many European capitals that have geographic, political, cultural, and, more significantly, economic ties with the region.

International efforts and Arab pledges, however, are not sufficient to achieve peace. Israel, being the other side of the conflict, should prove that it really wants a lasting peace with the Arabs. It could do so by exhibiting a measure of flexibility that would encourage progress in the peace talks. Israel is an occupying force. Its bristling arsenal of weapons should, in conjunction with international guarantees and its military alliance with the United States, provide it with all the security it needs.

In view of the above, calls within Israel for continued occupation of Arab lands for security purposes are unjustified. True peace and security for all the nations of the region, including Israel, can be achieved once Israel abides by what the international community agreed upon in the Madrid peace conference. Israel should understand that peace requires brave decisions. Such decisions alone can bring down the psychological barriers that separate the two sides; place the normalization process, much talked about by Israel, on steady footing; restore true security and stability to the region; and establish a comprehensive peace, the sort of peace desired equally by Arabs and Israelis.

Israeli Plan To Open Cultural Centers Reported

NC1907182994 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic
15 Jul 94 p 1

[Excerpt] According to reports, the Zionist government is trying to exploit the climate created by the ongoing political settlement efforts in the region to establish its dominance in some other spheres. It has drawn up a plan to open new cultural centers in Egypt along the same lines as the existing Israeli Academic Center, which spies on Egypt.

The reports add that Israel's plan for cultural cooperation with Egypt depends basically on asking Egypt to allow it to build new cultural centers to stress the importance of bilateral cooperation. The plan envisages

an Israeli cultural center in Alexandria that will focus primarily on social issues and another in Aswan that will focus on cultural issues. Several others will be built in Ismailia, Sinai, and Marsa Matruh. [passage omitted]

Minister Says No Agricultural Land in Israeli Hands

NC1907142894 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT
19 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 Jul (MENA)—Dr. Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and land reclamation, said that the reports about proposals to carry the Nile waters to Israel are baseless and that this issue has never been discussed.

Addressing the conference of propagators today, Dr. Wali said: This issue is out of the question. Egypt is one of the Nile Basin countries and cannot add any other country to it.

The minister denied that the Israelis own a single inch of Egyptian agricultural land. He said that cooperation between Egypt and Israel in the agriculture spheres is limited to attempting to benefit from the experience in some aspects of land reclamation and the import of some seeds that produce good quality vegetables and fruit.

He also denied that hormones are used to produce agricultural products in Egypt. [passage omitted]

Musa Confers With British Envoy on Bosnia, Yemen

NC2007190094 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1755 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa received British Ambassador in Cairo Christopher Long this evening. The ambassador said after the meeting that he conveyed a message from Douglas Hurd, minister of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, dealing with the situation in Bosnia.

In his statement, the British envoy said that his country hopes that all parties will accept the proposed settlement plan in Bosnia because it represents the last hope for achieving peace there. He noted that the Egyptian and British stances on the issue of Bosnia are identical. The ambassador added that both stances stress the need for achieving peace, because if the efforts fail the consequences will be extremely grave. He said that he will convey Musa's explanations about the issue to his government.

Christopher added that his talks with 'Amr Musa also dealt with the situation in Yemen and the possibility of having UN envoy Lakhdar Brahimi's mission in Yemen resumed. He said: We agreed that it is important that reconciliation be achieved and that a dialogue be conducted among the various parties. We also agreed that humanitarian assistance to Aden should be intensified, the ambassador added.

The British ambassador said that 'Amr Musa briefed him on the latest developments in the peace efforts in light of Egypt's role in encouraging all parties to continue negotiations to achieve the required progress. He stressed the need for achieving progress on the Palestinian, Syrian, Jordanian, and Lebanese tracks before the end of the year because this issue cannot endure any delay.

Discusses Cooperation With Saudi Envoy

NC1907125394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT
19 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 19 Jul (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa met today with Ambassador Fu'ad Mufti, Saudi Arabia's permanent delegate at the Arab League. They discussed ways to consolidate Arab action in all fields, the Arab League's role in the coming stage, and the importance of boosting cooperation among the League member states for a better future for the Arab countries.

Mubarak, Demirel Discuss European Proposal on Bosnia

NC2007174394 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1700 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received a telephone call from Turkish President Suleyman Demirel this evening. During the call, the two presidents exchanged views on the European proposal to end the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Serbs' reaction to the European proposal, and a number of issues of common interest.

Sidqi Returns From Turkey

NC2007174294 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1658 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 Jul (MENA)—Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi and the accompanying delegation returned to Cairo from Istanbul this evening at the end of a five-day visit to Turkey. [passage omitted]

Kuwaiti Charged With Funding Terrorists Deported

NC2007105694 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic
16 Jul 94 p 1

[Report by Jamal 'Abd-al-Rahim]

[Text] 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Mujaybil, the Kuwaiti citizen charged with funding terrorist groups in Egypt, has been deported to Kuwait after the Higher State Security Prosecutor's decision last week to release him.

Security authorities had arrested the Kuwaiti citizen along with two Egyptians three months ago and charged them with financing terrorist groups in Egypt.

Investigations revealed that the Kuwaiti citizen arrived in Egypt as a representative of Kuwait's Society for

Reviving Islamic Heritage on the pretext of founding charity projects in Egypt. He was arrested while handing over large sums of dollars to Egyptians.

A responsible source has stated that the Kuwaiti Embassy in Cairo submitted a large number of petitions calling for the release of the Kuwaiti citizen.

Awqaf Minister on Terrorists Coming From Afghanistan

NC2107101794 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT
21 Jul 94

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Jul (MENA)—Awqaf Minister Dr. Muhammad 'Ali Mahjub has affirmed that Egypt has taken on the responsibility of protecting Muslim minorities all over the world by three major methods. These are: bringing the sons of these countries to study at al-Azhar University, sending preachers to these countries, and setting up permanent Islamic centers.

Dr. Mahjub said in an interview with the Kuwaiti magazine AL-YAQADHAH in its issue for tomorrow, Friday, that we now have thousands of youths from all over the Islamic world, and Albania, in particular, study at al-Azhar at the expense of the Egyptian Government. In addition, Egypt has sent doctors, ulemas, and Egyptian school syllabuses to bolster the activities of the Islamic centers it set up in some Islamic countries, particularly in the CIS states.

The awqaf minister added that ties between Egypt and these people did not break at all. They are on a continuous rise.

Dr. Muhammad 'Ali Mahjub noted in his interview that some powers that hold a grudge against Egypt succeeded in recruiting some Egyptian youths who left Egypt in the name of jihad in Afghanistan. They were trained in camps in Peshawar, indoctrinated with fatal ideas, and lured by money to such an extent that they were willing to renounce their country and society.

He affirmed that all those who carried out terrorist acts in Egypt are from among the youths who returned from Afghanistan.

He said that these youths' language was weapons. The state was forced to use the same language with them because it was not confronting a religious call or ideology that could be challenged. It was confronting criminal gangs that committed the crimes of murder and destruction. He pointed out that the state dealt with these gangs within the framework of the law.

The awqaf minister clarified that Egypt opened all doors to the repentant returning youths. He said these youths are our sons and we have to open our hearts to them, embrace them, and guide them to the path of righteousness and constructive activity.

Libya

Minister on Lockerbie Case, Relations with West

MM1907133994 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Jul 94 p4

[Report on interview with Information Minister Ahmad Ibrahim by Sawsan Abu-Husayn in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] Libyan Information Minister Ahmad Ibrahim has confirmed his country's willingness to hand over the two Lockerbie incident suspects for trial in Cairo if the other parties concerned accept that. In an exclusive interview with AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, the minister called for an Arab summit conference before the end of this current year to discuss Arab concerns.

On the proposal calling for the trial of the suspects in Cairo, the Libyan minister said: "We are content with what (Egyptian) President (Husni) Mubarak said, that this Egyptian-Libyan proposal was an attempt to close the Lockerbie file. We proposed numerous initiatives. What is important is that the Western parties accept them. Libya is willing to respond fully in the context of the Arab League resolutions and the efforts of the Egyptian leadership." In his view, Libya is not responsible for the deadlocked crisis. According to him, that deadlock is a result of the refusal of others to reach understanding through dialogue.

The minister does not accept that the cause of the lack of a solution to the Libyan-Western crisis is the lack of confidence in Tripoli's policy. He says: "On the contrary, Libya's policy is consistent and it seeks nothing more than protection of its national independence, territorial sovereignty, and national rights. In our foreign policy we apply the principle of open dialogue and respect for world peace. Despite the state's small size, we are the state which has made the biggest contribution to the development of Africa, Asia, and Latin America."

On Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhafi's statements attacking the West and describing it as barbaric, having previously called for dialogue and cooperation, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT asked if the West would see in that some contradiction that would prevent it from cooperating with Tripoli. The minister replied: "Let me explain these positions. When we accept cooperation the West rejects it. That is why the brother leader said they were barbarians. Still, we have no objection to dealing with them and we ask nothing more than mutual respect without undermining our sovereignty, territory, and independence. However, the midnight killing of children, women, and elderly people in Tripoli and Benghazi was not for Lockerbie. That problem did not exist at the time." The Libyan minister wondered: "The United States severed its relations with us in 1979, 1980, and 1981 and imposed an economic blockade. We are trying to remember what crimes Libya committed at the time."

Minister Ahmad Ibrahim describes the Lockerbie crisis as a legal matter and adds "let the evidence and the proof be presented and the suspects stand trial and end this crisis. A defendant is innocent until proven guilty. The solution currently proposed by the West is that Libya should lose its independence first, and that is something we will never accept."

On the Libyan people's suffering in this connection, he says: "We have submitted numerous reports to the United Nations on the losses resulting from the blockade and the Libyan people's suffering, but it seems that nobody reads these reports. The United Nations and the West do not care about the harm done to the people. As small nations we try to focus on development and on serving our own objectives. We have no armies capable of defeating or fighting the United States. All there is to it is that we want to be free." Asked if Libya had presented all the evidence in its possession to the United Nations to acquit itself, he replied: "We have presented much. Some elements in the case are of extreme importance. The reports of the German attorney general and his justice department completely deny that the bomb was planted in Germany and, therefore, the German judiciary believe that there was no charge to be made against the two Libyan suspects. Then there are the confessions of the company specialized in manufacturing the devices parts of which (the essence of the crime) they claim to have found. The company said that it had sold such devices to several parties and that Libya was not involved in the Lockerbie bombing. And there are numerous other pieces of evidence and developments, but who cares about the legal aspect of this case? Furthermore, the judiciary in the West is not independent, otherwise it would not have condoned the politicization of the case and the fact that it has been taken out of its legal context. We and the Arab brothers have made great efforts in search of a solution, and the Nonaligned Movement, the African summit, and the Arab League have issued resolutions, and most UN members including India and China, who together constitute half the world's population, have expressed solidarity with Libya, but in vain."

Sudan

IGADD-Sponsored Peace Talks Continue in Nairobi

Moi Opens 3d Session

EA1907212194 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi, today at State House, Nairobi, opened the third session of the Sudanese peace talks, with a call to the parties in conflict to immediately effect a cease-fire to stop further loss of life.

President Moi said he was encouraged that, despite a few drawbacks, the humanitarian agreement of May this

year, on the facilitation of relief supplies to the war-affected areas in the Sudan, is being implemented with a marked degree of success. President Moi assured the UN and its agencies that the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development, IGADD, peace initiative committee will endeavor to minimize the difficulties those agencies face in the provision of humanitarian assistance. President Moi said that, although air corridors were working smoothly, it was important for the parties in conflict to abide by the humanitarian agreement and facilitate surface corridors to enable relief assistance to reach the needy.

He thanked the international community for not only supporting humanitarian efforts in the war-torn Sudan but also for extending financial assistance to the IGADD peace talks. President Moi particularly thanked the British Government for its grant of 25,000 sterling pounds, the Norwegian Government for 100,000 U.S. dollars, and 40,000 dollars from the Government of the Netherlands.

The president noted that the resolving of the Sudan conflict through the regional initiative will be a big boost toward faster regional cooperation and development. He observed that the presence of all the parties to the conflict at the peace talks signifies the seriousness they attach toward seeking a negotiated and lasting settlement of the Sudanese conflict.

President Moi, who is also the chairman of the IGADD peace initiative, assured the international community that the concern for peace in the Horn of Africa region was a top priority. He said wars and man-made disasters have for a long time denied the people of the southern Sudan the chance to improve their living conditions. He at the same time appealed to the people of Sudan everywhere to recognize and appreciate the importance and sanctity of life.

President Moi pointed out that the conflict in the Sudan was deep-rooted and multidimensional in nature, adding that IGADD member states did not believe in shortcuts to resolve the conflict. He said the fear that the peace talks process was slow, with long breaks, is not justified, as time was needed to consult widely. President Moi observed that it was not the speed of the negotiations which mattered most, but the durability and viability of the final agreement.

President Moi announced that he had appointed the minister for science, technical training and technology, Dr. Zachary Onyonka, to chair the day-to-day proceedings of the peace talks. He explained that the minister for foreign affairs and international cooperation, Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka's schedule of duties required him to be out of the country frequently, adding that the talks, being so crucial, needed close attention and continuity.

The president appealed to the chairman and accredited negotiators to conduct the order of the deliberations in plenary meetings and avoid handling important issues through the press. President Moi urged the negotiators to

ensure that care was taken over every aspect of the negotiations to avoid any weak links in the final outcome.

He said a situation whereby death and destruction are the order of the day is totally abnormal and undesirable. He noted that, by their presence, the people of the Sudan have demonstrated their yearning to avoid such a situation.

On Rwanda, President Moi said he was appalled and saddened by the human suffering in that country, and added that the people of Rwanda deserve peace. In this regard, President Moi paid tribute to the efforts of the French Government in giving humanitarian assistance to that troubled country. President Moi said that what the French were doing in Rwanda should be supported by all peace-loving people.

Present at the talks were ministers Kalonzo Musyoka and Zachary Onyonka; Assistant Minister Julius Sunkuli; Permanent Secretary Dr. Sally Kosgei; and the chief of protocol, Mutuma Kathurima.

Others were the Ugandan second deputy prime minister and minister for foreign affairs, Paul Ssemogerere; with his deputy, Agard Didi.

Also present was the Ethiopian minister for foreign affairs, Seyoum Mesfin; and his Eritrean counterpart, Petros Solomon.

The Sudanese Government was represented by the speaker of the National Transitional Assembly, Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah; Dr. Ali al-Hajj Muhammed, minister for regional government; and Dr. Nafi al-Nafi, minister for state.

The Sudanese People's Liberation Movement, SPLM, was represented by Mr. Salva Kiir Mayar Dit and Yusuf Kuwamakki, while the Sudan People's Liberation Movement United, SPLMU, had Dr. Richard Mula.

Further on Talks

EA2007200094 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Peace negotiations are continuing in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, between the government's delegation and the two delegations of the rebel movement. Today's session included separate coordination meetings between the government's delegation and the two rebel delegations, in the presence of the foreign ministers of the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development [IGADD] states to clarify and coordinate the stands. The IGADD states are scheduled to submit a final agenda for discussion.

Meanwhile, some members of the government's delegation held contacts with a number of rebels who are in Nairobi, and who confirmed their desire to return to the country and contribute to achieving a just and comprehensive peace in the country.

The second session of negotiations is still continuing.

Al-Bashir Reiterates Support for Talks

EA2007193394 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, the president of the Republic, has confirmed the government's support for the IGADD states' initiative to achieve peace in the south of the country. He hailed all the sincere efforts being exerted to achieve peace. He said the round of negotiations, which began yesterday in Nairobi between the government's delegation and representatives of the rebel movement, is regarded as complementing peace efforts within the country. At his regular meeting with leaders from information and press organs, held this morning at the SUDAN NEWS AGENCY, the president of the Republic added that the Nairobi negotiations arouse considerable interest at the regional and international level, and among all those who are interested in peace in Africa. [passage omitted]

Deputy Speaker on Unified Rebel Faction Statement

EA1907223394 Omdurman National Unity Radio in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] Mr. Angelo Beda, deputy speaker of the Transitional National Assembly and chairman of the Juba

Political Convention for Forces of Peace, has expressed optimism over the statement issued by the unified group of the rebel movement, led by Kerubino Kwanyin Bol. He lauded the statement and the stance of the unified faction toward achieving peace through dialogue. His excellency said the statement expressed the faction's belief in the need for a peaceful solution to the issue of the south, and the rejection of the principle of war. He explained that the statement was congruent with resolutions from the Juba Convention for Forces of Peace, which embodied the aspiration of the masses to and their rallying around peace in a magnificent national meeting.

Armed Forces Praise Return of Rebel Leader

EA2007205394 Omdurman Republic of Sudan Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Brigadier Muhammad Bashir Sulayman, the official spokesman of the Armed Forces, has described the return of Kerubino Kwanyin, a leader of the rebellion, to the homeland as confirmation of the government's earnestness to achieve peace. The official spokesman of the Armed Forces added, in a statement to the radio, that Kerubino's return will have a negative effect on the rebel movement because of his strong influence in the Bor area and Bahr al-Ghazal. This means a complete confinement of the movement in that area.

Saudi Arabia

Cabinet Ministers View Gaza Violence, Other Issues

LD1807205594 Riyadh SPA in English 1954 GMT
18 Jul 94

[Text] Jeddah, July 18, SPA—Second Deputy Premier, Minister of Defence and Aviation and Inspector General Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz presided over the weekly meeting of the Council of Ministers at al-Salam Palace here Monday [18 July].

After the meeting, Minister of State and Acting Information Minister Mohammad Ibrahim Mas'ud told SPA Prince Sultan briefed the council on the meetings and consultations conducted by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques with Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, Azeri President Geydar Aliyev, speaker of the Kuwaiti Umma Council Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Saadoun and the General Commander of the U.S. Central Command General Joseph B. Hoar.

Prince Sultan said these meetings touched on supporting Arab and Islamic issues and Islamic solidarity. He pointed to the continuous efforts exerted by the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques to support Arab and Islamic causes and realize security and stability in the Islamic nation.

Mas'ud said the council reviewed a summary of reports about the most prominent developments especially in tense areas and expressed deploration of the bloody confrontation between Israelis and Palestinians at the main crossing point between Gaza Strip and Israel, which killed and injured a number of Palestinians.

It expressed sorrow for this incident which does not serve the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians on the one hand, or Israel and other Arab parties on the other.

It also expressed hope that all concerned parties would remain committed to the Middle East peace agreement.

Reviewing some local issues on the agenda, the council was briefed by Interior Minister Prince Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz on his following up of cooperation and coordination between the ministry sectors and all other government agencies to study reports submitted to him on their efforts to ensure safety and a good standard of living for all citizens and residents, in line with the directives of the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques.

The council also issued the following resolutions:

1—to mandate the general president of youth welfare or whoever he delegates to initial a draft cooperation agreement between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Kingdom of Morocco in cultural fields, taking into consideration Minute No. 10 by the Council of Ministers experts commission, dated 16-1-1415 h [25 June 1994].

2—approving the cashing of due funds for some authorities under contract with the kingdom.

Press on Christopher Tour, Arab-Israeli Conflict

LD1907141494 Riyadh SPA in English 1245 GMT
19 Jul 94

[Text] Riyadh, July 19, SPA—The Saudi newspapers commented today editorially on a number of topics. Jeddah-based 'UKAZ highlighted the kingdom's pioneering role in the service of Arab and Muslim countries. The kingdom, realizing its responsibility towards the Muslims, has been unwaveringly supporting the Arab and Muslim causes, said the daily. The wise and moderate policy of the kingdom will enable it shoulder its historical role in a successful manner, said the daily noting that the kingdom supports the causes of the Muslims and Arabs in Palestine, Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Kashmir.

On the current tour of U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher of the Middle East, AL-BILAD, which is also published in Jeddah, said the tour of Christopher coincided with the statement of Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres which said that Israel would be ready to recognize Syrian sovereignty on Golan Heights. The statement of Peres was followed by counter statements from the Israeli rightists who deplored his statement. By such contradicting statements Israel is playing a dirty game to mislead the public opinion, said the daily. The daily deplored the massacre carried out by Israeli forces in Gaza and said the dimensions of the Israeli maneuvers are known by all. Israeli maneuvers will no doubt impede the path of peace and make it more complicated, said the daily.

Riyadh-based AL-JAZIRAH pointed out to resumption of multipartite talks between the Arabs and Israel and said the Arabs have proved to the world that they have a strong will and are keen on folding the page of the state of no-war and no-peace which followed the Arab-Israeli wars. The Arabs are keen on opening a new page with all the countries of the region, said the daily. It is hoped that Warren Christopher will be capable of squandering Israel's suspicions on the future of its relations with the Arab, added the paper.

Jeddah-based AL-MADINAH, commenting on the developments of the situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina said it seems that the organization of the United Nations will give up its role in the Balkan country so as to pave the way for NATO countries to formulize new ways for settlement of regional and international disputes. The big powers are keen on enhancing their political influence in the world in a way that conforms with their economic influence, said the daily. In the era of the new international order, the big powers are planning to turn the United Nations into a willing tool in their hands, added the paper.

AL-RIYAD newspaper warned against recurrence of massacres between the Arabs and Israelis similar to the

massacre that recently took place in Gaza. Political and social circumstances are different and far from the nature of coexistence required to exist between the two parties, said the daily. If Israel is keen on building constructive relations with the Arabs, then it should put an end for its policy of discrimination against the Palestinians, added the daily. If Israel fails to cooperate with the leadership of 'Arafat, then it will face a serious security problem and will moreover fail to develop its relations with the countries of the region in an atmosphere of confidence, the daily pointed out.

Yemen

Presidential Council Member Holds News Conference

JN1907080994 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] Brother 'Abd-al-Majid al-Zindani, member of the Presidential Council, has stressed that Yemen's interest is above all party and personal considerations. He denied any differences between the General People's Congress and the Yemeni Reform Grouping on basic national issues of interest to every Yemeni citizen. Brother Al-Zindani's remarks were made during a news conference that he held yesterday. The news conference was attended by representatives of domestic, Arab, and foreign news media in our country. He said that dialogue is the only way to resolve any differences that may develop between political parties and organizations.

Regarding dialogue with the Socialist Party, brother al-Zindani urged the party's unionist leaders to rectify the party's course in a manner compatible with the Constitution and laws, with which everyone must comply.

On constitutional amendments, the brother Presidential Council member indicated that since we all adhere to the rule that the people are the source of authority and that they are entitled to choose their representatives, and since we have all accepted the results of the elections that were held in our country—the fairness of which have been testified to by everyone—then the House of Representatives represents that people's will, and must make the constitutional amendments.

Brother al-Zindani regretted the deliberate distortion of some news media, especially some Arab news media, of the domestic sedition which took place in Yemen. Noting that the sedition was caused by those who rebelled against the constitutional legitimacy, he called on the media to be accurate in their reporting. He indicated that when the media refrain from telling the truth, they put themselves in a position that does not call for confidence in what they say.

The brother Presidential Council member said that the destruction that was inflicted on strategic installations in the economic and commercial capital, Aden, and other Yemeni cities was deliberate destruction which was

carried out by the gang of rebellion and secession just before its defeat. He indicated that the state is in possession of audio recordings of the withdrawing rebels' orders to their misled remnants to destroy everything on the ground, particularly economic institutions and facilities. They also urged some irresponsible elements to attack, loot, and destroy those institutions and facilities. He indicated that grave damage has resulted from these acts of sabotage, which affected strategic facilities, such as power and water stations and refineries. He said that the government issued appeals for sisterly and friendly countries to help the reconstruction of Yemen. He indicated that the appeals were made a short time ago, and that it is difficult now to say who will respond to these appeals and who will not.

Responding to a question on the losses in figures, brother al-Zindani said that committees have been set up to assess the losses scientifically. This will provide accurate figures on the losses, he said.

On some tendentious news media reports which said that Aden was subjected to a looting operation soon after the legitimate troops entered Aden, the brother Presidential Council member said: Everybody knows that the war took place around Aden. While marching toward the city, the government troops concentrated their attacks on camps and seized military hardware. The rebels who fled Aden ordered that everything should be damaged. They urged the public to loot public property. He added that citizens were suffering from the scarcity of food supplies and were looking for anything to eat. He noted: Therefore, when the citizens, pressed by need, saw food stores and unguarded centers, some of them tried to take the quantities of food that they and their families and children need. That caused a state of disorder and chaos. When chaos spreads, it is difficult for any army that has just arrive to establish security unless it uses violence, something which we avoided. At any rate, that state prevailed for a limited period of time. Taking advantage of that state of chaos, irresponsible elements were involved in improper practices.

In his news conference, the brother Presidential Council member denied the existence of any terrorist camps in our country.

Al-Zindani, al-'Attar Receive Iranian Official

JN2007203794 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Presidential Council member brother 'Abd-al-Majid al-Zindani has received a delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran, led by Hoseyn Sheykholeslam, under secretary at the Iranian Foreign Ministry. The two sides reviewed relations between the two fraternal countries and looked into ways to cement these ties.

The Presidential Council member expressed Yemen's thanks for the Iranian Government's support for our country's unity. [Words indistinct] thanks be to God our

faith in Yemeni unity now that its foundations have been buttressed and graced with the blood of the faithful sons of Yemen.

The Presidential council member underlined the importance of coordination and cooperation among Islamic countries, and hoped that their leaders would pay attention to development and emphasize areas of agreement among themselves and steer clear of differences. He underscored the importance of economic integration among Islamic countries.

For his part, Hoseyn Sheykhoslam said the Iranian Government and people were heartened by the triumph of the cause of Yemen's unity.

This morning the Iranian delegation called on brother Muhammad Sa'id al-Attar, acting prime minister. They reviewed the state of close cooperation between the two fraternal states and considered how it could be deepened further. Al-Attar outlined the conspiracies that had been plotted to undercut the unity of the Yemeni people. He told Sheykhoslam the Yemeni people were grateful for the Iranian Government's support for their country's unity and the humanitarian aid Tehran extended to them. The Yemeni people wanted relations with Iran to be further enhanced in all areas to advance the interests of the two fraternal peoples, al-Attar said.

The Iranian official said his country's government and people supported the Yemeni people. His country was prepared to lend a hand in Yemen's reconstruction effort following the destruction wrought by the separatists.

The meeting was attended by brother Mohammad Jalal Firuz-Nia, the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to our country.

Concern Expressed Over Ambassador's Disappearance

JN2007201094 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Foreign Minister brother Muhammad Salim Basindwah today received brother Chadli Benhabib, Algeria's ambassador in Sanaa. The brother minister told him Yemen was concerned about the continued disappearance of brother Qasim 'Askar Jibril, Yemen's former ambassador in Algiers, and his companions. The brother minister asked the ambassador to tell his government that our government continues to be concerned over the issue.

Sanaa Says Former Aden Governor 'Was Not Killed'

MM1907132794 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 18 Jul 94 p 5

[Report by Hammud Munsir: "Sanaa Retracts Its Confirmation that Aden's Former Governor Was Killed"]

[Excerpts] Sanaa—Sanaa no longer insists that Salih Munsir al-Suyayli, Aden's former governor, was killed. Well-informed political sources told AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday in Sanaa that al-Suyayli was not killed and that the reports to that effect had not been confirmed and were perhaps meant as a camouflage to facilitate his escape from Aden and his disappearance immediately after arriving in Djibouti. [passage omitted]

A well-informed source in Sanaa has told a story which confirms that al-Suyayli was not killed. It says that Brigadier General al-Suyayli, a member of the Political Bureau of the Yemeni Socialist Party, had refused to leave Aden in the company of [southern Vice President] 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Jifri and former Defense Minister Haytham Qasim Tahir aboard the ship Aden for Djibouti on 5 July but he did leave aboard another ship called al-Mahrah for Djibouti.

The source said that before leaving Aden, al-Suyayli took \$16 million from the National Bank, and he tried to say goodbye to his six guards before boarding the ship but they threatened to kill him and one of them fired shots in the air as a warning. By force of arms, they boarded the ship with him and left with him for Djibouti but on arrival there he disappeared. [passage omitted]

Water Pumping Resumes to 'Most' of Aden

JN2107062894 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Water pumping has been resumed to most of the quarters of Aden, the economic and trade capital. The water supply has been restored in Khormaksar, al-Mu'alla and (Wast Jabir). Water will also be supplied to Crater quarter later.

Engineer Muhammad 'Ali al-Husayyin, executive director of the General Water and Sewerage Establishment, told this to the Yemeni News Agency, SABA.

Eng. al-Husayyin said work is being stepped up to repair the remaining pipes in the water network project in the governorate which were sabotaged and bombed by the gang of rebellion. [passage omitted]

'Aziz Reacts to Albright's Remarks on Sanctions

JN2007203294 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1420 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] United Nations, 20 Jul (INA)—Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz has accused the United States of using fallacies and contradictions inside the UN Security Council to pass its premeditated intentions against Iraq.

Speaking at a news conference he held at the UN headquarters yesterday, Mr. 'Aziz said the U.S. ambassador read a statement full of fallacies, and one which contradicted the UN reports, particularly the UN Special Commission's and the International Atomic Energy Agency's reports.

In particular, the deputy prime minister noted the U.S. ambassador's remark that Iraq had extended only limited cooperation. The Special Commission's report, 'Aziz noted, had emphasized that Iraq had extended full cooperation to put the monitoring mechanism in place, which was more than limited.

Rolf Ekeus' reports made it clear that, rather than extend partial cooperation, Iraq extended full cooperation, the deputy prime minister indicated.

Mr. 'Aziz wondered about the reason behind the U.S. ambassador's reference at the Council to the Iraqi technical cadres. What is Mrs. Albright driving at from this reference? Does she want the Security Council's resolutions to brainwash Iraqi scientists? Iraqi scientists are now engaged in the civilian sector and have carried out a restoration of the infrastructure devastated by the U.S. aircraft, which is what all nations do, 'Aziz said.

Responding to Mrs. Albright's reference to the situation in northern Iraq, 'Aziz said these allegations show the United States is practicing a double standard. This is because economic sanctions on Iraq are in themselves an act of economic war.

The deputy prime minister cited a 15 July report carried by Reuters, in which an U.S. official observed that it was not Algeria but Saudi Arabia and Kuwait that wanted the current level of oil production stabilized to finance trade deals with U.S. firms.

'Aziz said only one member of the Council is falsifying facts and disrupting the normal work of the Council, the majority of whose members recognize Iraq's cooperation and want to encourage it to show further cooperation in the future.

'Aziz charged that, to promote its own interests in the Arabian Gulf, the United States was blocking any decision at the United Nations that sought to lift the sanctions.

The United States was interested in an unchanged level of oil production by Saudi Arabia and Kuwait so the two countries can honor their contracts with American firms, like ATT and Boeing.

'Aziz cited statements by a top U.S. official in Paris in which he sounded alarmed by the implication of a possible lifting of the sanctions for oil prices on the global market.

Asked about last year's explosion at the World Trade Center in New York, 'Aziz said Iraq was prepared to cooperate with U.S. investigators. The Americans have not sought any information but if they do approached us through the proper channels we will be forthcoming, he emphasized.

The deputy prime minister noted that Iraq began oil production in the twenties, even before the crude was discovered in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. 'Aziz said the two countries were producing beyond their appointed quotas to cover the cost of trade deals that had been forced on them.

President Saddam Husayn's reference in his most recent speech to equal relations with Iraq's neighbors and the National Assembly speaker's invitation for a conference of Arab parliamentarians to promote reconciliation, speaks for Iraq's position on regional stability, Tariq 'Aziz said.

Iraq has always observed OPEC's output ceiling. Iraq's track record since the twenties has been one of responsible behavior, never exceeding its appointed quota despite its huge oil deposits.

Asked about the oil pipeline across Turkish territory, the deputy prime minister said the subject was under review, noting that certain aspects first needed to be sorted out before a satisfactory arrangement was worked out.

Paper Criticizes U.S. Sanctions Stand at UNSC

JN2007192594 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT
20 Jul 94

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jul (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has described the U.S. Administration's position on the anti-Iraq sanctions as isolated, gruesome, unscrupulous, and unappreciative of the norms that should govern the work of the UN Security Council [UNSC].

In an article published today on the U.S. stand during the UNSC's deliberations of the unfair sanctions clamped on Iraq the day before yesterday, the paper adds that the isolation the United States felt during these deliberations was reminiscent of the isolation it felt two months ago, during the last UNSC review session of the sanctions.

The paper goes on to say: Russian Ambassador Yuliy Vorontsov has highlighted the disagreement between the U.S. position on the one hand, and the positions of the other permanent members of the UNSC as well as nonpermanent members of the UNSC on the other when he reiterated that the United States is the only UNSC member that is obstructing the work of the UNSC.

Vorontsov added that UNSC resolutions are binding for the UNSC, just as they are binding for the countries concerned.

AL-THAWRAH says: No doubt, this statement by Vorontsov has underlined the need for the UNSC to comply with the provisions enshrined in Paragraph 22 of Resolution 687. Likewise, this statement provides ample evidence of Iraq's positive responsiveness to and fruitful cooperation with the UN Special Commission, as attested to by Rolf Ekeus, France, the PRC, and most permanent members of the UNSC.

AL-THAWRAH concludes by saying: The anti-Iraq U.S. stand at the UNSC is shortsighted, rancorous, and shows lack of sound political vision. Meanwhile, the understanding of Iraqi positions by the world community is firmly and gradually increasing and gaining momentum.

Al-Sahhaf Protests Leaflet Dropping to UN

*JN2107121894 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT
21 Jul 94*

[Text] New York, 21 Jul (INA)—Iraq has informed the UN General Secretariat that U.S. and other warplanes, flying from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, have violated the Iraqi airspace and dropped leaflets hostile to Iraq and the Iraqi people.

In a letter the Iraqi permanent representative to the United Nations delivered to the UN Security Council president yesterday, Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf said that U.S. and other warplanes have continued their hostile and provocative acts, flying from bases in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. During their flights over Iraqi territory, they dropped hostile and instigative leaflets detrimental to Iraq and its sovereignty.

The letter added that the hostile aircraft broke the sound barrier, dropped flares, and flew at low altitudes over southern governorates. This broke the glass of windows and doors at a large number of houses and officials departments.

The foreign minister condemned these hostile and provocative acts, saying: We hold the Saudi and Kuwaiti rulers fully responsible for their participation in acts of aggression against Iraq. Similarly, we hold them responsible for the immense material damage these acts cause, and also for the security, economic, political, and moral threats they pose to Iraq and the Iraqi people.

Turkish Parliamentarians Discuss Cooperation

*JN2107074294 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1400 GMT
20 Jul 94*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jul (INA)—Two delegations representing the Iraqi National Assembly and the Turkish Grand National Assembly today held a joint meeting to discuss ways to activate relations between Iraq and Turkey.

The Iraqi National Assembly delegation was led by Safa' al-'Umar, chairman of the Arab and International Relations Committee. The Turkish Grand National Assembly delegation was led by Erdal Inonu, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee.

They discussed areas of cooperation between Iraq and Turkey and ways of activating them, particularly economic cooperation, for the benefit of both peoples. They discussed proposals regarding the Iraqi oil pipeline crossing Turkish territory, as well as the opening of a border post in al-Khabur area exchange commodities and foodstuffs between the two countries.

Safa' al-'Umar stressed Iraq's sincere desire to enhance cooperation between Iraq and Turkey in order to serve security and peace.

Inonu described relations between Iraq and Turkey as cordial and as having distinguished historical roots, two effective factors of the establishment of security and stability in the region.

Al-Sahhaf Confers With Delegation

*JN2107075394 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT
20 Jul 94*

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Jul (INA)—Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf today received the visiting Turkish parliamentary delegation, headed by Erdal Inonu, chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee at the Turkish Grand National Assembly.

During the meeting, they exchanged views on enhancing relations between Iraq and Turkey for the benefit of both neighboring countries.

The minister talked about the positive signs inside the UN Security Council in favor of the Iraqi position calling for the lifting of the unjust blockade on Iraq.

Erdal Inonu said both sides had similar views and positions on how to serve the interests of both neighboring peoples and countries. He stressed Turkey's respect for Iraq's sovereignty and its territorial integrity and safety.

He added that his country is continuing efforts to lift the blockade on Iraq, and stressed that Turkey is planning to flush the Iraqi oil pipeline crossing Turkey.

Inonu expressed his confidence that the bilateral relations will soon witness activity and prosperity.

Industry Minister Confers With Ministry Staff

*JN1807190694 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT
18 Jul 94*

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Jul (INA)—Hasan Kamil Hasan, minister of industry and minerals, has said that Iraq has made long strides in building a solid industrial base relying on its own resources despite the unjust embargo.

At a meeting with Ministry staff, he said Iraqi research centers have come up with local equivalents which have stood up well to practical experience.

The enemies of Iraq used their military aggression and malicious siege to halt the wheels of scientific and technical progress Iraq has seen under His Excellency President Saddam Husayn. However, thanks to their enlightened minds and relentless work, the Iraqis have succeeded in the rehabilitation process in the aftermath of the destruction wrought by the malicious enemies.

The minister identified successes in the area of reconstruction, citing oil refineries, oil derivatives, and rehabilitated electric power stations.

He indicated that the industrial sector's cadres are now involved in new fields like irrigation and bridge building that had once been the sole concern of foreign companies. The minister also cited other big projects, including the leader's two-tier bridge, Saddam's Tower, and the Baghdad Clock. This is over and above the design and manufacture and installation of television transmission towers.

Operations Center To Monitor Nightclub Closures

JN2107111694 Baghdad AL-QADISIYAH in Arabic
11 Jul 94 p 2

[Article by 'Ammar al-Musawi: "Setting Up of Operations Center To Monitor Implementation of Decree on Closure of Entertainment Places, Dance Halls, and Night Clubs"]

[Text] In implementation of Revolution Command Council Decree No. 82 on the closure of entertainment places, dance halls, and night clubs it has been decided at the Baghdad Governorate offices to set up an operation center under Baghdad Governor Qa'id Husayn al-'Awwadi to monitor implementation of the decree.

This came during an expanded meeting of the Baghdad governor with the heads of administrative units in districts and subdistricts. The operations center will consist of commissioners of the districts within the boundaries of the Baghdad Municipality and the Baghdad police chiefs in al-Karkh and al-Rasafah.

It has also been decided to form 22 administrative subcommittees in other districts and subdistricts, under the heads of the administrative units, to monitor the strict implementation of the decree.

The discussion at the meeting also dealt with the steps and measures to be carried out by the departments concerned in order to apply the decree, since the committees will begin their work immediately upon the end of the period set by the decree. The Baghdad governor cited the need to prepare a list of the places covered by

this decree and to appoint competent elements that will follow up on its implementation, affirming that the decree must be carried out very strictly and without any delay. He said control by the committees will continue for a long time and that deterrent measures will be taken against contraveners of this decree.

Barzani Radio Charges PUK Shot KDP Official

JN2007200194 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan
in Arabic 1615 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] At 1430 yesterday, 19 July, and while brother Faransu Hariri, member of our party [Kurdistan Democratic Party, KDP] Central Committee and chairman of the KDP Bloc at the Iraqi Kurdistan National Council, was returning to Salah al-Din after his normal work in the Council in Irbil, he came under heavy fire from an ambush between the Irbil police post and the village of (Bir Zim). Hariri sustained minor injuries.

While strongly condemning this terrorist attack and demanding immediate investigation of the incident and a punishment of the perpetrators, we announce that all indications are that the attack was carried out by gunmen from the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK]. This is because brothers Azad Qurrah Daghi and Fadil Ra'uf, KDP bloc members in parliament, were detained at the same time and were later released after the PUK general secretariat was contacted.

KRP Hails Saddam, Denounces 'Foreigners' Agents

JN2107071594 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio
Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] The Central Committee of the Kurdistan Revolutionary Party [KRP] has hailed leader President Saddam Husayn's care for the sons of our Kurdish people, as well as his excellency's efforts to provide food rations for the Autonomous Region's governorates despite the difficult circumstances and the ongoing unjust blockade.

In a statement issued today following the end of its five-day meetings, the Central Committee of the KRP said this interest by leader President Saddam Husayn, may God preserve him, epitomizes the national commitment to the blessed 17-30 July revolution that is still continuing its national, liberational policy despite the growing imperialist-Zionist onslaught.

In its statement, the committee also condemned crime, blood, and terrorism, with which the foreigners' agents, led by terrorist agents Talabani and Barzani, have drowned the Kurdistan region in blood to serve the goals, intentions, and plans of their imperialist and Zionist masters. These agents, the statement says, also relinquished national character, dignity, and sovereignty by enabling foreign forces and regimes to interfere in our Kurdish people's affairs.

Peres Leaves for Cairo To Brief Mubarak on Talks

TA2107102394 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres is on his way to Cairo. His visit, which will last just a few hours, is intended to brief President Mubarak on the state of the talks with Jordan.

Rabin Comments on Buenos Aires Bombing

PY2007150094 Buenos Aires Telefe LS84 Television Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 19 Jul 94

["Exclusive" interview with Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by correspondent Reina Benhabib in Tel Aviv; date not given—recorded, in Hebrew with simultaneous translation into Spanish]

[Text] [Benhabib] What is your opinion on the terrorist attack in Buenos Aires yesterday?

[Rabin] It was a cold-blooded murder of innocent people. It is the second time this has happened in Buenos Aires. The first bombing affected the Israeli Embassy. I can say that it is the ugliest and cruelest act imaginable. We know that Islamic extremist groups opposed to Israel and Judaism are behind these attacks. They include groups like Hizballah that are closely linked with Iran. These people receive their weapons through Syria, and are paid by the Iranians. They are involved in these attacks. They were also involved in the attack against the embassy. It is the same pattern, although I do not have conclusive proof.

The attacks might also be in revenge for our attacks against Hizballah and the kidnapping of Mustafa Irani, who delivered Ron Arad to the Iranians. These two blows have moved them to seek revenge through attacks like the one you mentioned.

Argentina's President Carlos Menem called me last night to offer me his condolences for the attack in Buenos Aires yesterday. I greatly appreciate his gesture. I also expressed to him my condolences for the death of innocent Argentine citizens. I, too, mourn the death of Jewish and non-Jewish people. They are Argentine citizens first. I particularly regret what happened. It is the second time terrorists have struck us in Buenos Aires.

We talked on the phone and agreed to join our efforts to find those responsible. The two of us wondered why they chose Buenos Aires again. Neither of us had any answer.

President Menem supports our peace process. He also solemnly promised to help find the culprits. He asked us to join them in the search for the murderers. We have experience in the fight against Hizballah, Hamad, and the Islamic Jihad. An Israeli soldier died for the same reason in Erez today. He was also attacked by this

murderous force, who fight not only us, the Israelis, but also fight the Palestinians. They are particularly against peace.

[Benhabib] Do you, Mr. Prime Minister, openly accuse Iraq and Syria, as well as the pro-Iranian organization Hizballah, as the latter acts from here?

[Rabin] Hizballah members operate in many countries, including Algeria, Sudan, and Lebanon. They are all linked with one another, and obviously with Iran. I do not have the legal evidence to prove this, but all the attacks and events point to and prove this. We were aware that there were going to be terrorist attacks, and therefore we warned all our embassies throughout the world about this. The only thing we could not know was where exactly the murderous attack would be perpetrated this time. Islamic groups have an infrastructure in nearly all Asian, European, and Latin American countries. This is why we sounded this note of warning.

[Benhabib] Do you believe that Syria is also implicated in this attack?

[Rabin] It is my considered opinion that Syria is not directly implicated in this attack. Still, it allows the presence of Iranian Revolution groups, Hizballah groups from Lebanon, and groups that come from outside Lebanon in the area of Lebanon, where its forces are stationed. Moreover, the weapons that are sent to these groups that operate in southern Lebanon go from Iran via Damascus.

Netanyahu Views Peace Process, PLO

JN2107083994 Amman THE STAR in English 21-26 Jul 94 p 3

["Excerpts" of interview with Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu by correspondents Ben Wedeman and Elizabeth Ommachen in Jerusalem "last week"]

[Text] Some Palestinian officials said Sunday's [17 July] violent confrontation at Erez (near Gaza) has threatened the peace process. In your opinion, what will become of the peace process now?

We have always had our doubts about the PLO, both its intentions and its capabilities, and those doubts have been strengthened by events at the Erez checkpoint. The PLO forces did not discharge their responsibilities, did not safeguard order, and in fact we had great disorder, which many people, including me, fear will be the result of extending the PLO domain to all the (occupied) Territories. We would like genuine partners for peace. We do think, however, that Jordan is a strong partner for a real peace with Israel. We both want to see the formal end of belligerence. We have many mutual interests, foremost of which is the security of both our nations. (We would like to) solve the water problems, the environment problems, the question of trade. For all of these

reasons we have always seen Jordan as our strategic partner for peace. I cannot say the same for 'Arafat or the PLO.

The Palestinians have expressed a desire to represent themselves in the peace process. What alternative is there to the PLO?

Any Palestinian who wants a genuine peace with Israel is, as far as I'm concerned, a partner for peace. The PLO is not proving to be a genuine partner. The (Israeli) government invested much hope in the PLO's promises: that they'll abandon terror, that they'll take action against PLO constituents that continue to perpetrate terror, that they'll annul the PLO (Palestine National) Charter calling for Israel's destruction, that they'll confront Hamas instead of collaborating with it, and so on. All of these have proved illusory promises. 'Arafat has broken every single promise he's given to Rabin. The question is not whether there are potential partners among the Palestinians—anyone who would take a genuine course for peace is a potential interlocutor. But the PLO has disappointed many Israelis, including those who supported the initial steps of the Rabin government. Many now doubt if we should continue along the course set by Oslo. I would prefer something else, and I think it would be in the interest of many states—including Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Syria—to pursue a different path than one that empowers 'Arafat or an independent PLO state in the West Bank. I think this is a prescription for instability and conflict, and ultimately for a renewed war. A better arrangement in dealing with the areas of Judea and Samaria—the West Bank—would be to proceed along the idea of autonomy for Palestinians and to have an association between Israel and Jordan on the functional arrangements between Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians—precisely as we envisioned in Madrid. That includes education, commerce, the question of banking and currency. I think the issue of sovereignty, which is a very difficult one, should be left to a later stage.

Attempts are under way for cooperation in all the areas you mentioned, such as banking and education. Nabil Sha'ath recently said there are 22 areas where the PLO and Israel are discussing empowerment of Palestinians in the West Bank, rather than establishment of autonomous areas. How does that differ from what you're saying?

Because I think what the PLO is really interested in is not autonomy, but sovereignty. It is not interested in coexistence. It is interested in ultimately eliminating Israel, and in my judgment, not only Israel. 'Arafat said that in a mosque in Johannesburg. Yasir Abd-Rabbuh said this in Gaza when he said "Our goal is to liberate all of Palestine." By that he meant Tel Aviv and Jaffa. And when you have the basic intention away from peace and towards war, the outcome will not be peace. It's clear to me that the PLO is a force of instability, and a radical force that hasn't yet proved it can change its stripes.

Polls indicate rising Israeli support for the peace process. Is support growing for the peace process?

All Israelis want peace. The differences among us are not over the desire for peace, but rather over the path to achieve it. In this we do differ with the government. If you look at the aggregate of polls over the past few months, it is clear the euphoria has faded, and that people now share my original scepticism about the reliability of PLO promises. There is a need to ensure security, to ensure the PLO domains don't become a launching ground for a war of subversion, against Israel. This requires that Israel maintains during the interim period the crucial responsibility for overall security.

When Israel controlled Gaza it paid a very high price?

First of all, the cost in wounded and dead after Oslo has risen dramatically. It has more than doubled. In the ten months since Oslo we have had 60 Israelis murdered. In the ten month period before Oslo it was 34. So you had a tremendous rise in violence after the agreement that was meant to stop terrorism. In fact, the issue for us is not Gaza. Gaza was never a crucial issue for us. This is very different when you talk of the heights of Judea and Samaria (the West Bank). There, 94 percent of the territory dominates the crowded Israeli coastal plain. It abuts the major cities of both Jordan and Israel. What we can afford to do badly (in Gaza) does not reflect on the West Bank. To the contrary. The crucial issue is not Gaza, it is the West Bank, and there most Israelis would feel we should not replicate the virtual unilateral withdrawal from Gaza because such a replication on such strategic terrain would pose a very great risk. I don't believe peace is possible in the Middle East without anchoring it in security. An arrangement that is merely written on a piece of paper isn't worth much.

Since 1974 the Golan Heights has been very quiet. Is this an indication Syria would be faithful to agreement on the Golan?

It is true Syria has kept to both the letter and the spirit of its disengagement agreement for the Golan Heights in 1974. But we cannot rush to the conclusion that Hafiz al-Asad will keep all his agreements. Because in Lebanon the Syrians broke just about every agreement they signed. The interesting question is why al-Asad keeps his agreements on the Golan while systematically violating them in Lebanon. The answer is what I said before: agreements that are cemented by security are more easily kept. In fact, I think the reason we have had tranquility on the Golan for the last 20 years is because of the Israeli presence, which makes the thought of war practically unthinkable. If Israel were to withdraw from the Golan, the Syrian army would be once more on top of Israel. You would once more have a peace treaty based upon the word "trust me," in this case from Hafiz al-Asad. I don't think that is a good prescription for a peace. A good prescription for peace is both a peace treaty and embassies and normalization.

I should make a distinction between Egypt and Jordan on the one hand and Syria on the other. Jordan has never threatened us, for many decades. From my point of view it has been a responsible neighbor. It has not built a huge army with the express purpose of attacking us. Naturally our considerations vis-a-vis Jordan differ from our considerations against a much more belligerent Syria. I think peace is possible with Syria, but I would negotiate in the same way I would expect any other country to negotiate. I would not make my concessions known in advance. This is a much more prudent way to negotiate than the current government's negotiating technique. They should also differentiate on the front. We have different negotiating partners as we move from one country to another.

When Rabin signed the agreements in Washington and Cairo he signed them in the name of Israel. How would you treat these agreements if elected?

There is a concept of continuity of contracts between successive governments, and it is a principle to which I would adhere, but I would expect the agreement to be honored by the other side as well.

What would be the pretext for halting implementation of the agreements?

The government itself, Mr. Rabin, has indicated over the past few months a number of instances in which the PLO was not keeping its side of the bargain. There are serious doubts in the Israeli public, not only about the value of the Oslo agreements, but also the worth of 'Arafat's promises, which have been systematically broken.

Jordan is a leading proponent of the concept of Jerusalem as an open city. What is your position on this idea?

We may have a different point of view on that. We certainly view Jerusalem as being open to all faiths. We practice that. Muslim and Christian pilgrims come to Jerusalem freely. Jerusalem has been open to all faiths under Israeli administration. The Muslim holy places have been administered by the Waqf, in association with Jordan. These are arrangements which are sensible. Certainly under any peace settlement we have to ensure free access of all faiths to their holy places in Jerusalem. This would be our policy. But we have to separate the question of political sovereignty from religious access. We obviously feel Jerusalem should remain under Israeli sovereignty. Equally, belief in the universal aspect of Jerusalem means that we will always seek to have unimpeded access of all religions to Jerusalem.

Do you have any reservations about the peace talks with Jordan?

Whereas I have compunctions about peace with the PLO, I have no compunctions whatsoever about peace with Jordan. I know (with Jordan) there is no discrepancy between the professed aims and the real aims of our negotiating partners. I know Jordan wants a genuine

peace. We may have differences. We may have differences on questions of water or land on the Arava (Wadi al-'Arabah) border, or even questions of Jerusalem, but I know that Jordan does not seek to annihilate Israel, as Jordan knows Israel does not in any way seek to annihilate Jordan.

But in the past members of your party have been proponents of the "Jordan is Palestine" theory, which, in a sense, is very much intended to annihilate Jordan.

That may have been the position of some in the past, but it was never a formal Likud position. It is very much neither the formal nor the informal position of the Likud today. Successive Likud governments, from the Camp David accords in 1978 through the Madrid talks, saw Jordan as a partner for peace on the eastern front, and I certainly see it that way. I believe the Palestinian problem should be resolved in the context of the two states, Jordan and Israel. We have always said we don't believe there is room for a third state to explode the peace between us and sow instability. I personally prefer the present arrangement. The Jordanian government over the past 20 years has behaved with great prudence and great responsibility. This reflects a general orientation within the Likud. If it wasn't expressed formally with quite the clarity that I am doing so now, I welcome the opportunity to dispel any misunderstandings. We view the stability of Jordan and its government as an important aspect of the Likud's foreign policy, and I'd say Israel's foreign policy.

When we talk about peace with Jordan, what do you envision, taking into account that bitterness is still intense, that in Jordan the idea of completely normal and natural relations is very difficult for many people to accept?

Maybe there is bitterness on both sides. Many Israelis harbor feelings of bitterness and frustration over the pain and sorrow of war from when Jordan and Israel were at war. But I could envision a brilliant future for both countries. I could envision, first of all, a heightening and cementing of the security of both countries by solid understandings, and perhaps a regional approach for security involving other countries. Secondly, I think we both have to face a Middle East that has not developed economically at the rate it could have if we had peaceful conditions. The potential for tourism could be tremendously advanced by the free movement of tourism. I think the areas of Elat and Aqaba could become one of the great tourist spots in the world under peace.

The problem of water is much more difficult to resolve in a mode of confrontation, and much more easily resolved in a mode of cooperation. Joint desalinization plants in the Red Sea, which are prohibitively costly for one country, could become feasible if Jordan cooperated with countries like Saudi Arabia. Israel has doubled the irrigation capability by sharing its technological know-how with West Bank Palestinian farmers. It has brought up water use efficiency from 40 percent to 80 percent

since 1967. We would like to cooperate with Jordanian farmers to do the same. There is virtually no area of life that could not be effected positively by peace between Israel and Jordan.

Two weeks ago you made a speech in Jerusalem from a balcony decked with a banner that read "Death to 'Arafat." Are you an advocate of his death?

Absolutely not. I discovered that banner two days afterwards. This is not our way. We oppose any resort to violence either internally or externally. We have peaceful legitimate means within Israeli democracy to voice our concerns. But violence, or such calls, are absolutely repudiated. In the past I have repudiated these calls to violence and I welcome the opportunity to do that again.

Clarification of U.S. Policy Toward Iran Demanded

TA2007130194 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
20 Jul 94 p A1

[Report by political correspondent Aluf Ben]

[Text] Israel has demanded that the United States clarify whether it has changed its hardline policy on Iran and is currently encouraging European states to develop political and economic ties with Tehran. Jerusalem was surprised by a briefing by German officials to a senior Israeli public figure who visited Bonn last week. The German officials said that the good relations between their government and Iran are being coordinated with Washington and have its agreement.

They noted the ties between the German and Iranian intelligence services. The Iranian Minister of Intelligence & Security 'Ali Fallahian-Khuzestani, visited Bonn in October 1993 and exchanged information and assessments with his hosts. According to the German officials, the United States did not oppose the German Government's decision to reschedule Iran's heavy debt. They claim that U.S.-Iranian trade is currently to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars annually and that Washington does not oppose German trade with Tehran. The senior public figure reported the claims by the German officials to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

Itamar Rabinovich, Israel's ambassador to Washington, was asked to communicate the matter to the U.S. Administration and demand an explanation. The Americans flatly denied the German charges and said that the U.S. policy toward Iran remains unchanged. Officially, the United States expressed displeasure about Iran's debt rescheduling by the European states and Japan, and had reservations about the dialogue between those countries and Iran. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher used tough language to attack his German counterpart Klaus Kinkel concerning the special ties between Germany and Iran at his meeting with Kinkel seven months ago.

Justice Minister Denies U.S. Extradition Request

TA2007182694 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1800 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Justice Minister David Liba'i says that since he has received no U.S. request for the extradition of either Rami Dotan or Harold Katz; the matter has not arisen at all. The justice minister further denied reports alleging that he is considering amending the extradition agreement with the United States to enable Dotan's extradition despite Dotan being an Israeli citizen.

The U.S. federal prosecutor said yesterday that talks with Israel on the extradition matter are under way, although in this case the agreement with Israel makes the extradition unfeasible.

Editorial Urges Relentless Pursuit of 'Terrorists'

TA2007124494 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
20 Jul 94 p B1

[Editorial: "Hunting Down Terrorists"]

[Text] The bombing of the Jewish community building in Buenos Aires on the same day the talks began between Israel and Jordan in the 'Arava reminds everyone that terror organizations and the countries that support and foster them have not come to terms with the reconciliation process in the Middle East and are trying to hurt Israelis and Jews in order to sabotage the chances for peace.

Terror struck the Jewish community in Argentina for the second time in two years. Since the days of Baron Maurice de Hirsch (who opposed Zionist ideology and sought to settle Europe's Jews in that faraway continent) this has become a solid community which has scored numerous achievements and maintained strong ties with other Jewish communities around the world, particularly with Israel.

The argument about the solution to the Jewish people's uncharacteristic situation is rekindled in Israel and other Jewish communities every time there is a terrorist incident. Many Zionists then say that all Jews should gather in Israel. This is also the official ideology of the State of Israel, which has anchored the status of the Zionist movement in legislation.

However, most Jews in the Diaspora probably believe that "the pursuit of their own happiness" precedes immigration to Israel and demand—justly so—the equality and freedom to do so in any country around the globe.

Obviously, Israel's security services cannot provide fool-proof security for Jewish communities around the world. In fact, the IDF [Israel Defense Forces], the Shin Bet, and the Israel Police have a tough time guaranteeing security in this country, which is still being struck by terror. Such a task becomes even tougher outside the boundaries of the Middle East. Intense Israeli activities

might arouse the anger of sovereign governments and partially exempt them of their obligation to protect their Jewish citizens. Jews in the Diaspora do not want that.

At the same time, Israel has in the past made great efforts to curb Arab and international terror and to help apprehend its perpetrators. It must continue to do so in order to give a meaning to the prime minister's words that "Israel will do everything in its power to amputate the hands of the assassins." Coping with terror in Latin America is a tougher call than in the Middle East or Europe. Nevertheless, one must bear in mind that Israel's secret services are already operating in that continent under difficult conditions, without the invitation of the pertinent governments, and yet it has scored many achievements. Adolf Eichmann's capture is just the most famous of them, but the house on Garibaldi Street is not the only example.

Just as it dealt with airplane hijackings in the 1970's—both by tightening security and hunting down the planners and perpetrators of terror—Israel can give a hard time to the terrorists who have turned Buenos Aires into a killing field, punish the culprits, and deter their cohorts. An unrelenting pursuit of the assassins and those who sent them may reduce terror against Israeli emissaries and Jewish communities overseas.

Notwithstanding the grief over the victims, both Jews and others, we should not abandon these activities and should pursue them tirelessly even when a calm and routine life is restored.

Prisoner Freed on Appeal From 'Arafat's Wife

TA2107104894 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1000
GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Rabiha Shutayah, the prisoner who was on a hunger strike, has been released from the Sharon Prison. She returned to her home in East Jerusalem. She was sentenced to eight years in prison for possession of weapons and belonging to an enemy organization. She was released after serving two-thirds of her sentence.

Rabiha Shutayah was one of the prisoners whose release was requested by Suha 'Arafat approximately a week ago.

Technical Cooperation Pact Signed With Seychelles

TA2007182994 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1800
GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Israel and Seychelles today signed a technical cooperation agreement. The agreement was signed by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin and Seychelles President France Albert Rene, who is currently in Israel.

The president and his entourage will stay six days in Israel, during which they will visit industrial and agricultural plants. They also plan to visit the Baha'i center in northern Israel. The wife of the Seychelles president is a Baha'i.

King Husayn, Christopher Hold News Conference

JN2007202094 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Joint news conference by King Husayn and U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher at the Royal Court in Amman on 20 July, with domestic and foreign correspondents—recorded; all questions and answers are in English]

[Text] [Husayn] Welcome, Secretary. I'd like to welcome you once again, sir, to Jordan with our dear friends, your colleagues, at this very interesting moment in the life of this region. As you know, we are moving with hopes and we are close to fulfilling a very dear objective, the establishment of a just, comprehensive, and durable peace in this region. My meeting with the president during my last visit to Washington was a very important one in the sense that it convinced me of the need to address my people and to move on a very dear issue and objective to all of us, that of establishing peace. I did so, and I am proud of the reaction to the overwhelming majority of people in this country—their maturity and their trust. As you know, we have over the last two days had meetings in the area of the border between us and Israel, and today will attend, as our partner, the trilateral meetings on the Dead Sea. And in the next few days I will meet Prime Minister Rabin in Washington as a guest of President Clinton and have the privilege of sharing with him addressing the joint Houses of Congress. I hope that all this reemphasizes our total commitment to the cause of peace and a better future for our people, for all people in this region to move from what is abnormal to what is normal in human relations once the problems are resolved. We are at the beginnings of serious negotiation, but we are encouraged by what we have seen already and we are determined to move ahead. And I believe that my meeting with the President and with Prime Minister Rabin will enable us to shepherd the process forward in the times ahead through our commitment, hopefully, to the same objective. I welcome you once again to Jordan and to share the success and ...this visit to this region and share with you the hopes that we will be moving towards the breaking of a new dawn of peace in this region and a comprehensive peace. Thank you very, very much.

[Christopher] Thank you, Your Majesty. It's a great pleasure as always to be back here in Jordan and to be a guest of the king. We thank the Jordanian people and him for the graciousness of their hospitality which is always very apparent when we are here in Jordan. The steps that the king has outlined, taken together, are genuinely transforming the landscape here in the Middle East. Together, they represent a milestone in the peace-making process, and I think that the king deserves great credit for his courage and in moving decisively ahead in this way. Through his courage and his leadership, I think King Husayn has once again demonstrated what we have long known him as; a man of great vision, dedicated to moving the region and especially the cause of peace. I want him to know and I want the people of Jordan to know that America stands ready to do everything we can

to assist in this process, which, of course, has to fundamentally rest on the shoulders of the parties, but, nevertheless, we are prepared to take any step that we can to assist the parties in this historic pursuit of peace in this region. So, thank you, Your Majesty, for your hospitality here and I look forward to the remainder of my trip here to Jordan and then in a couple more days in the region. Thank you, Your Majesty.

[Randah Habib, AFP] Do you consider the communique issued yesterday in Wadi al-'Arabah as a good base for the Jordanian-Israeli talks today in the Dead Sea, and especially the talks next Monday between his majesty and Mr. Rabin?

[Christopher] Yes, I think that yesterday's talks are very important launching pad for what will really be a most historic week. They got off to a very good business-like promising start. We'll have meetings today at the Dead Sea, as the king has said, and this all leads up to the events in Washington where they'll be capped by the meeting between the king, President Clinton, and Prime Minister Rabin of Israel—an extremely important step forward. And I think we'll energize not only the Israeli-Jordan track but the peace process as a whole.

[Caroline Faraj, AL-RAY] Actually, after hearing you here, sir, I find it really very difficult for me to understand why the United States is always connecting between Jordan's position and entering in the peace process and helping Jordan militarily and economically?

[Christopher] I wonder if I could ask you to restate the question. I didn't quite understand the thrust of it. Would you please?

[Faraj] Why the United States is always connecting between entering the peace process—Jordan position on entering the peace process—and helping her economically and militarily? Because as far as we know, there is no connection between that. What's your position on that?

[Christopher] Well, the United States has always been ready to help those in this region who have the courage to commit themselves to peace. The king and the president have discussed these matters, and we think that it's very important to support the cause of peace, to support the peace process by assisting those who are involved. It takes a lot of courage, it takes a lot of will for countries to throw off the habits of the past and to move into a new relationship. And if the United States can give some encouragement to that through the matters that you mentioned, then we definitely want to do so. I do not regard the matters as unrelated at all. I regard them as closely connected, and the desire on the part of the United States to assist those who are working for peace in the region.

[Unidentified correspondent] Your Majesty, [words indistinct]. It is possible that Jordan sign the peace with Israel without any progress in the train of Syria?

[Husayn] I believe the Syrian track is as active as we are. We have taken a sovereign decision regarding our right

to move to deal with every aspect and every problem that is included in the agenda which we ratified in Washington some while ago, and we are beginning. But it is our fervent hope that at the end of this process there will be a comprehensive peace in this region. Obviously, every element, every country involved is important in terms of what we want in the way of the transformation from where we are to what we are going to hopefully enjoy, or our people will enjoy beyond our times even.

[Unidentified correspondent] Excuse this question, but I work for a New York newspaper, and we have an issue of local interest to our readers. Mr. Secretary: Did you ask the king, did you raise the issue of Muhammad (Abika) with the king? And Your Majesty: Would you be willing to extradite this man to stand trial on murder charges in the United States?

[Christopher] I talked to our ambassador here this morning about this—Ambassador Egan. He indicated that he had raised it with the appropriate authorities here in Jordan, and that he is urging in the strongest appropriate way that some action be taken, and that seems to be the appropriate channel for the discussion of this matter.

[Husayn] On this subject, I'd like to say that maybe there is an area where we can achieve some progress in the future, and that's to have an extradition treaty, which we don't have at the moment. But certainly we'll do everything we can to help in anyway we can to resolve this problem in terms of a crime that has been committed regardless of whether it was committed here or in the United States.

[Unidentified correspondent] The Israeli Foreign Minister, Shim'on Peres, recently or two days ago, he stressed on the Hashemite and the Jordanian sovereignty on the holy shrines in Jerusalem. And do you think this acknowledgment is enough and will you tackle this complex issue in your forthcoming summit in Washington with Mr. Rabin?

[Husayn] I don't think that I will tackle it in that sense, and what I have been calling for over a long period of time and what we have been calling for here is to engage in a dialogue and to encourage the interfaith dialogue to secure for the holy sites in Jerusalem a very special status, where the sovereignty there will be to Almighty God only and where, if we are talking about the Arab and Islamic position, what we are calling for is that let me recognize that the holy sites in Jerusalem belong to the Muslim ummah to the Islamic world as a whole. And I think that we have time and again suggested the idea that we hope for the exercise of rights in terms of the seven schools in the Islamic world in that regard and ourselves but we are certainly seeking a solution for Jerusalem that will make it the essence of peace and the symbol of peace between all the followers of the three great monotheistic religions.

[Unidentified correspondent] Does Jordan still insist that in order for to sign a peace treaty with Israel, it has to first resolve all the items on the common agenda with

Israel, including the refugees, or could there be any separation between this matter which may take too long and the other issues on the agenda?

[Husayn] I believe that we are approaching the matter as we have suggested time and again as we try to resolve all the problems that are there or to reach an understanding on all of them. And we have just started, and we are continuing. But on the subject of refugees, people accuse us at times of not paying attention to it. I think that Jordan can be described as the greatest donor of any country in the world in that regard but more than that. What we are talking about is that the people in Jordan are members of our family. They are members of one family that will continue to be until and unless any one them choose otherwise when the conditions permit that. But, we are obviously concerned with the situation in Jordan regarding the standards of living of all Jordanians and how to move them from where they are to what they should be in the coming period.

[Unidentified correspondent] Can you say whether the administration will revive a recommendation of jet sales to Jordan, ask Congress to approve jet sales? What are the military equipment might be heading Jordan's way now that the king is willing to come to Washington to meet Mr. Rabin?

[Christopher] Well, we are going to be proceeding in Congress to carry out the discussions that the President had with King Husayn, which involves elements of debt forgiveness and making available certain military equipment to Jordanians. That will require a congressional approval. I am not going to address any particular item of equipment and whether or not that would be made available. That would be part of the process in which the President moves forward to try to take into account the risks that Jordan is taking to pursue peace. As I said before, the United States is always prepared to assist countries in this region to take risks for peace. Mr. Katz has been trying to get a question here for some time.

[Katz] Thank you very much Mr. secretary. Your Majesty, since the gap does not seem to be too great in terms of a peace agreement with Israel, exactly when is the earliest you think you could sign a peace agreement with Israel, could it be next week, could be next month, or in the next few months? And for Mr. Secretary, when would you like to see Jordan sign a full peace agreement with Israel?

[Husayn] I believe the answer is as soon as it is possible, but certainly not next week. We still got a long way to go, long in terms of our eagerness to arrive at a state of peace that finally will transform this entire region, and hopefully a comprehensive peace. But as far as we are concerned, the Jordanian track, we are moving, seriously. We are addressing all the problems that have to be addressed, and we have, as we have always suggested, insisted, that a peace treaty come as a crowning achievement of the efforts of a successful resolution of all the problems.

[Katz] Could it come within a month or two months?

[Husayn] I do not know. May be a month might be too, too soon for it but I really cannot say.

[Unidentified correspondent] Your Majesty. There is a lot of talk in Jerusalem about the possibility that you might visit soon. Particularly, Nasir-al-Din al-Nashashibi [a Palestinian writer] has raised the possibility. Is this likely?

[Husayn] There is nothing planned as yet in that regard whatsoever. But, I certainly hope that some day before I join those who have preceded me, I will be able to pray in the al-Aqsa Mosque which is so dear to me. As you know, today is the 43d anniversary of the passing away of my grandfather, who died in Jerusalem. I was by his side at that time. Jerusalem is a very very special place to us and has a very very special place in our hearts.

[Murid Hammad, Jordan Television] Jordan, from the outset of the peace talks, has reiterated its position, calling for a just, lasting, and, under line, comprehensive peace in the Middle East. The issue of comprehensiveness is very important to Jordan. How important is it to the U.S. Administration and particularly with regards to what's going on now on the Syrian track?

[Christopher] We've always felt that the peace to be entirely fulfilled would have to be comprehensive. And that's one of the reasons why we're trying to ensure, as best we can, that all these tracks move forward, not necessarily at the same pace, but they're all moving in the right direction.

I think probably it's common ground between the king and me and the other leaders of this area that peace will be satisfactory only when it is comprehensive. Many steps are going forward on that front and I think we'll continue to pursue them in that regard. When any one peace agreement is achieved, that's a very important step forward and it tends to energize the rest of the process. But, as I say, it will be a sense of incompleteness until the peace is comprehensive.

[Unidentified correspondent] When do you expect to report progress on the Syrian track?

[Christopher] Well, I will report progress as soon as the parties tell me that it's time to report progress.

[Unidentified correspondent] Sir, you've commended King Husayn of Jordan for what you describe as courageous steps. Do you believe the onus is now on Israel to take equally courageous steps to try and move ahead in the peace process? There is an impression here that it is the United States which is giving concessions to Jordan and not Israel, which should be the main negotiating partner in this process. Thank you.

[Christopher] It seems to me that the king and Prime Minister Rabin will have opportunities in Washington to discuss how to move forward toward a peace treaty. I want to emphasize that Washington's event was not intended and they will not see the signing of a peace treaty. But, we think it may accelerate the movement

toward a peace treaty. Those parties have been working effectively together. They worked effectively together in the first sessions and they'll be working together this afternoon. So, I don't have any criticism of either party but would urge them to spur their efforts, which I know is the common ground between the parties.

Husayn-Rabin Statement Ending 'Belligerence' Possible

NC2107131994 Paris AFP in English 1208 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Amman, July 21 (AFP)—Jordan's King Husayn and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin may proclaim an end to the 46-year state of war between their countries at an historic summit on Monday [25 July], a senior official said here Thursday.

Rabin and King Husayn will publish a joint statement saying they are "determined to work for a comprehensive peace" in the Middle East when they meet in Washington for their first public encounter, the Jordanian official said.

The statement "may contain an announcement of the end of the state of belligerence" which has existed since Israel was created in 1948, said the official, who requested anonymity.

The two will meet together with US President Bill Clinton on Monday and then speak to the US Congress on Tuesday.

Jordan and Israel may also sign in the US capital bilateral accords on issues contained in the common agenda which they initialed on September 14 last year, the official said.

"Jordan refuses to sign a Declaration of Principles whose terms remain to be negotiated. It prefers to sign agreements every time there is an understanding, and the sum of these agreements will lead to a peace treaty," he said.

The joint statement in Washington will highlight areas of agreement between the two sides on water-sharing, boundaries and economic projects, he said.

On Monday and Tuesday, meeting on their ceasefire line in their first public talks in the Middle East, the two sides supported an equitable sharing of the Jordan and Yarmuq river waters and set up a committee to define borders.

Muslim Brotherhood Rejects Negotiations With Israel

JN2107085194 Amman AL-SABIL in Arabic
19-25 Jul 94 pp 8

[Text] The Muslim Brotherhood has issued a statement on the developments on the Jordanian track, rejecting the recent negotiations steps and the government's flouting the people's representatives and their vital forces and its overstepping the nation's constants and rights.

The statement says: In successive steps and unjustified haste, the Jordanian Government pursues its course of negotiations with the Zionist enemy, ignoring the people's representatives and its political forces, not to mention the entire Jordanian people, and overstepping many of the Arab nation's rights and constants that are based on the nation's Islamic creed, its Arab and Islamic affiliation, and its experience in dealing with the Jewish Zionist enemy, which bases its relations on values of treachery, treason, arrogance, and aggression against the land, holy places, and the human being.

The statement says the current and forthcoming negotiations under various titles, justifications, and banners will lead to the recognition of the legitimacy of the Zionist usurpation. They also respond to the Zionist and U.S. dictates and conditions, and serve the Zionist scheme of expansion. This will make all the Arab negotiating parties become the gateway through which Zionism will enter Jordan first and from there the Arab and Islamic region. The besieged occupier will then become a friend and a partner in the new Middle East, in the plan for Zionist hegemony and to impose the Zionist era.

The statement rejects the relinquishment of our right to Palestine and the recognition of the legitimacy of the Zionist occupation of Islamic Arab land as a price for restoring occupied Jordanian territories, whose people and army have offered many martyrs in defense of Palestine and its holy places.

The statement views what is being said about the results of the meetings and peace with the Jews as being no more than promises, wishful thinking, and a step toward normalization before the negotiations—which are rejected—achieve any result. What the Arab parties that signed a peace treaty with the Jews have gained and the way the enemy treats these parties testify to what we say.

All the Arab negotiating parties now view the issue of Jerusalem, the holy places, and the first Qiblah and the third holiest shrine as an issue that only revolves around places of worship. Fateful Islamic and national causes have been bartered for limited material gains which can, in no way, be the price for these causes, or even for less important causes.

The Muslim Brothers reiterated their firm rejection of the principle of negotiations and their results, based on the premise of their abidance by the teachings of Islam, the understanding of the nature of the Zionist enemy, and the dimensions of the conflict with it on the basis of the old and contemporary historical facts and developments. In this respect, the Muslim Brotherhood emphasizes the following issues:

1. The Arab and Islamic land, including Palestine, is an indivisible whole. The nation has been interacting with this reality throughout its existence and even during its transient weaknesses;
2. The need for real dialogue on fateful issues that affect the nation's present and future, and the need to respect

the viewpoint of the representatives of the people and their institutions and key sectors, and not to harass or obscure the other viewpoint;

3. The need to support the Jihad resistance in Palestine and to prepare the nation in the Arab and Islamic countries to confront its historical enemies and be able to decide on its rights, resources, and fate;

4. To call on the people of Jordan and the Arab and Islamic countries to reject these negotiations and their results and to be patient and stand fast in the face of subservience, normalization, and capitulation.

Protests Meetings With 'Zionist Enemy'

JN2107114794 Amman AL-SABIL in Arabic
19-25 Jul 94 p 8

[Text] The Muslim Brotherhood held a speech rally at Jordan University mosque on Friday [15 July] on the occasion of the accelerating developments of the process of negotiations between Jordan and the Zionist enemy. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Rahman Khalifah, controller general of the Muslim Brotherhood; House deputies Hamzah Mansur and Dr. Bassam al-'Umush; and moderator Dr. Muhammad 'Uwaydah, attended the rally.

The speakers rejected all forms, stages, names, or justifications under which negotiations are held with the Jewish enemy. They also denounced the government's practices represented by coercing and suppressing the other party's opinion in a bid to forge facts and depict opposition smaller than its real size. During the rally, attended by a large crowd of people, the speakers emphasized their adherence to national unity based on just and equal citizenship rights in all domains, including freedom of expression, equal opportunities, and the right of parties, trade unions, and all other organizations to freely express their opinions.

The speakers said the rally is part of their responsibility to give advice, enjoin what is right, and forbid what is wrong. They added that they, supported by the Islamists and faithful sons of this nation, seek to warn against the grave consequences of these negotiations due to the fact that the Jewish mentality was brought up on betraying treaties and charters, as noted from past and present experience of dealing with them. They said the negotiations and their outcome are a disavowal of the blood of martyrs who fell in defense of the homeland and holy places.

The Muslim Brotherhood demanded that the enemy prime minister not be met or received on the land of Jordan and that no Jew be allowed to desecrate Jordanian territory.

It is noteworthy that electricity was deliberately cut off during the rally, something which was denounced by the audience. They considered it part of the coercion and blackout policy exercised against the opposite opinion.

Member Sees Effort To Defame Muslim Brotherhood

JN2107121294 Amman AL-SABIL in Arabic
19-25 Jul 94 pp 2, 29

[Interview with Dr. Muhammad 'Abd-al-Qadir Abu-Faris, Muslim Brotherhood member and former Jordanian House of Representatives member, by unidentified correspondent in Amman; date not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-SABIL] Dr. Abu-Faris, what is the secret of involving the Muslim Brotherhood's name and your name in the indictment against those accused of the recent explosion incidents, within a context that has nothing to do with the indictment?

[Abu-Faris] The truth is that there is an insistence on accusing the Muslim brothers of wrongdoing and to defame them. This is carried out by organizations that unjustly arrest people and pressure them so they falsely accuse the Muslim brothers, in order to distort their image and make people stay away from them. However, these lies do not deceive the people because they know the reality about the Muslim Brotherhood and the stand it adopts, based on Shari'a law.

The Muslim brothers reject the policy of regimes calling for capitulation and normalization of relations. These regimes and their organizations become angry, and concoct false conspiracies that they try to attribute to the Muslim brothers. This is what happened in the famous Hamas case where some of those arrested were asked to say that the official in charge of them is Dr. Muhammad Abu-Faris. They told this to the parliamentary investigation committee and the public liberties committee when they visited them in prison.

This is in addition to bringing pressure to bear on the defendants in the cinema case to have them claim the Muslim brothers are responsible for this operation. There are many other examples. The text of the indictment mentioning the Muslim Brotherhood and my name published in the press was within this context. This was not the first time, because the question of cutting down the Muslim Brothers to size has been on the table for quite some time. [passage omitted]

[AL-SABIL] Are you personally targetted by the incorporation of your name in the indictment?

[Abu-Faris] The conspiracy is not against a person but against Islamic reawakening. Individuals here have no importance.

Influenced by the Jews, the new world order, under the United States, is adopting a hostile stand toward Islam, and harasses Islamic movements because they are the only obstacle to the capitulation to the Zionist entity and the only barrier that stands in the way of the normalization of relations.

[AL-SABIL] Did you protest having your name mentioned in the indictment?

[Abu-Faris] I do not like to protest to the security parties because they were behind all this. However, I reported to the Muslim Brotherhood's command the information I had on the pressure that is being brought to bear on the detainees to have them accuse the Muslim Brothers and me. The testimonies of the people who were summoned should be documented, whether those summoned in relation to the case of Muhammad's Army, the Hamas case, the weapons case, or the cinema case.

The Muslim Brotherhood must defend itself and its symbols and must address the responsible authorities because what is taking place is unjust and this is not in the interest of the country's security and will create enmity and sedition. This is not in the interest of the country and the citizens.

Prince Hasan Comments on Talks With Israel

TA2007102194 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
20 Jul 94 pp A1, A10

[Report on interview with Crown Prince Hasan by Ze'ev Schiff in Amman; date not given]

[Text] "King Husayn has received several Israeli invitations to visit Jerusalem to pray at the Islamic holy places. Jordan oversees the Waqf in Jerusalem. We will seriously consider these invitations and respond to them when the time comes," Crown Prince Hasan, the monarch's brother, said in an interview with HA'ARETZ.

The conversation with Prince Hasan took place in his home in the royal palace in Amman during a dinner. It was preceded by a long discussion with him at his London home several weeks ago.

Prince Hasan said invitations to visit Jerusalem were received from Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert and his predecessor Teddy Kollek. It appears that various invitations began arriving at the palace from Israel even before the 'En 'Avrona talks started. Prince Hasan had been invited by Tel Aviv University to lecture on the coexistence of the three major religions in Jerusalem.

On Jordan's tie to the Islamic holy places in Jerusalem, Prince Hasan said: "Jordan has not shirked from its responsibility for the Islamic holy places in East Jerusalem." He defined the role as "Islamic moral authority." The prince said Israel must remember the city's Arab history. "We cannot talk about 3,000 years of history in Jerusalem, since King David, and ignore the Arab period in this holy city."

The prince, who in 1979 published a research paper on Jerusalem, said that everything must be done to separate the issue of religion and tradition in Jerusalem from political issues. "What all the religions need is a just division of the moral-religious tradition, and for that we must have an arrangement between the leaders of the three religions."

As to the question of whether Jordan will be able to reach a peace accord with Israel before Syria, Hasan replied: "It is possible." He then corrected himself by saying "it is conceivable. A great deal, of course, depends on the outcome of the negotiations between Israel and Jordan." In reference to the possibility of border adjustments between Israel and Jordan, Hasan said that Jordan announced some time ago that it would be prepared for border adjustments if they are marginal and on a mutual basis.

Referring to the anticipated meeting between King Husayn and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in Washington, the prince said that a similar invitation had previously arrived from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. He said it was mostly the Americans who pushed for fixing an early date for the meeting because they wanted it to be close to the transfer of the talks to the Middle East and the 'En 'Avrona meeting.

While Egypt wanted to advance the meeting between the monarch and the prime minister, Syria—as usual—criticized Jordan. Nevertheless, the impression in Jordan is that the criticism was not as fierce as in the past, although the Syrian foreign minister complained about the anticipated meeting. "Nobody has the right to criticize Jordan for wanting to return its rights, whether these are territorial and borders or water. Nobody has the right to demand that Jordan be last in bringing up its demands," the prince said.

The Jordanians apparently reported to Damascus in general terms about the possibility of a public meeting with Israel's prime minister, but the precise date was not mentioned because events developed very quickly and in secret talks between the United States, Jordan, and Israel. The secrecy was broken at the last moment by a report leaked from Washington on Monte Carlo Radio two hours prior to President Clinton's announcement about the White House meeting. Jordan voiced outrage about the leak.

Prince Hasan rejected the claim, made often in the past, that Jordan held up the peace talks with Israel for a long time. "Jordan took steps which nobody else took. We were accused of the contrary—of putting the cart before the horse—even before the Madrid conference took place. Our recent impression of Israel has in fact been that the situation is the other way round. It appears to us that Israel plans to suspend the peace talks and the resolution of the basic problems, and that the only thing that concerns it is what is called normalization, even before solving basic problems, such as borders, territory, water, and refugees."

Interviewed on Talks, Syria's Attitude

JN2007204594 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1605 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Report on interview with Crown Prince Hasan by BBC correspondent Salamah Ni'mat on 20 July; place not given—italicized passages are recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] In answer to a question on the U.S. assistance to Jordan in exchange for the peace process, Prince Hasan said:

Undoubtedly, there is a U.S.-Jordanian (?barter agreement) concerning economic assistance. I believe the Jordanian position is clear, based on firm principles, and I believe there is a U.S. recognition of what Jordan offered and is offering toward peace and stability in this region.

[Announcer] On Israel's recognition of Jordanian sovereignty over the occupied Jordanian territory, the point at issue, the crown prince said:

The issue of recognizing the sovereignty again is not out of the picture. That the sovereignty has not been exercised on this land for some time, especially the southern region since 1967, does not mean that there is a pretext for avoiding recognition of this sovereignty. For our part, we naturally call for restoring sovereignty over land and resources so that we can move on from the basic facts; namely, factual and legal surveys, naturally, for the various stands, and hence provide a political framework for the economic stand, which falls, as you know within the framework of the trilateral U.S.-Jordanian-Israeli committee. However, we do not hold the economic dimension, so-called normalization, to be above the legal, political, and tangible framework; namely, border demarcation by which Jordan could exercise its rights on its territory.

[Announcer] Answering a question on the Jordanian-Syrian relations at this stage, especially after the recent developments, his highness said:

All the channels of diplomacy are naturally open between us and Damascus. But when we talk about the management of the peace process since Madrid, the sponsor states, the United States, and Russia, are the ones that are practically responsible for bringing viewpoints closer between the parties. It is noted [word indistinct] naturally that the U.S. secretary of state will visit Amman and Damascus and naturally Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory. It seems to me that the current contacts are comprehensive. It is obvious from the media [word indistinct] that there are varied and contradictory opinions. But I believe that in talking about the official, responsibly stand in both the fraternal countries, we notice that there are a trend toward the international diplomacy, especially the U.S. diplomacy, at this stage.

[Announcer] On whether Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' visit and his attending the trilateral meeting at the Dead Sea is regarded as normalization of the Israeli-Jordanian relations, his highness said:

I believe that [word indistinct] you have not put your question in the right manner because the choice is not between an exceptional event and normalization. (?Al-Shar') sometimes talks about currents. Let us look practically at these circumstances and the absence of the Arab coalition and rapprochement, I believe that the issue of exchanging visits between a point in the north of the dead sea in Jordan and an Israeli point is part of what the United States think will bring

viewpoints to reality. Again I would like to note that the issue of the bilateral talks ended or almost ended in Washington before the latest developments. The bilateral talks began within the framework of the Syrian-U.S. talks and the Palestinian-Israeli talks. Also, naturally, implicitly the U.S.-Syrian-Israeli talks. I believe this approach in reality is part of the stage which we will be living within our endeavors to realize peace.

Paper: 'Capitulation' To Engender Martyrdom, Jihad

JN1907195894 Amman AL-MAJD in Arabic
18 Jul 94 p 12

[Article by Fahd al-Rimawi: "Firm Until Death"]

[Excerpts] Sooner or later, the decision of capitulation by the Jordanian Government and the Palestinian organization [PLO] will engender its own popular nemesis represented by the martyrdom decision.

Sooner or later, the forces and masses that oppose the settlement, peace, and normalization will find their way to revolutionary action, the movement of jihad, and the practical response which will transcend the state of bewilderment, frustration, and confusion.

While certain figures from the [Jordanian] government and from the organization [PLO] have dared to accept capitulation and have vied with each other to have the honor of standing under the umbrella of the Israeli era, the day is not far off when the Palestinians and the Jordanians will compete with honor and courage in resisting the sell-out and in bringing down the path of capitulation and the policies of apostasy and defeatism.

The official act of capitulation will inevitably lead to martyrdom on the popular level no matter how long it takes and regardless of the frustration and the confusion, exactly like the law of popular resistance, which is always engendered by colonialism, occupation, or tyranny. [passage omitted]

We will not make peace, will not capitulate, and will not recognize the enemy or its presence and existence. We say this loudly for the entire world to see and hear us. We are not afraid of the enemies and of the agents because fear befits the capitulationists, the defeatists, and those who sell out Arab rights. Fear is only for them and not for those who hold their blood in their hands and the supreme national interests in their heart, and who leave all worldly pleasures and mundane possessions behind them and out of their immediate attention.

We admit that we are few in number, that most of the writers have left to the lands of capitulation. We admit that we are at present unable to take direct and immediate action, now that the ranks have been shaken, the plans disorganized, and the effect of the Israeli-U.S. intervention become heavier. We admit that we are threatened with jail and perhaps with death, that our papers are threatened with closure and confiscation

every day. But we are aware that we are the salt of the earth and a thorn in the flesh of the capitulationists, east and west of the River [Jordan], that we are a future force of endurance if not a present force of deterrence. We are the custodians and guardians of the future and not the outgoing dinosaurs that are bound to become extinct.

We are aware that the future is for us and for our people, for principles and firm beliefs and not for those who are on the U.S. bandwagon and those Zionized and Americanized ones who have failed the test of patriotism, those who are immersed in the political scandals and those who have abandoned the side which engaged in strongly worded claims only to land in a dumb, lopsided, and grotesque place of haggling.

Finally, peace be upon Husayn Bin-'Ali [great grandfather of King Husayn], Yusuf al-'Azma, 'Izz-al-Din al-Qassam, 'Abd-al-Qadir al-Husayni, and Sulayman Khatir. They preferred death to ignominy.

Paper: 'Absurd' Peace Process Critics Must Stop

JN2107070194 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
19 Jul 94 p 3

[Article by Salamah 'Ukur: "What Do They Want From Jordan?"]

[Text] What do those who are spreading slogans of rejection and protest in faxed statements, and instigating our people against the resumption of negotiations on the Jordanian-Israeli track, want Jordan to do?

If Jordan can restore its occupied land and its plundered water, and impose its full sovereignty over its national soil within internationally-recognized borders, then why should it turn its back on the peace process?

As long as Jordan is strongly committed to the comprehensive solution on all fronts, and as long as it will not relinquish any of its national rights, then why is there this unjust media campaign against it?

Jordan has always stood in its nation's trench and shouldered the burdens and repercussions of military and political defeats in battles, which no one consulted it on. Despite this, an unfair siege was imposed on it by its brothers in order to weaken it and its role. Its national identity, sovereignty, security, and stability have become threatened.

Since 1967, Jordan has had several opportunities to restore the West Bank and all the territories which were occupied during the 5 June 1967 war in return for a peace treaty with Israel. However, it rejected all these offers. Since then, Jordan has been exposed to a series of temptations and intimidations to conclude a separate peace treaty with Israel, but it has remained committed to the constants of the Arab solution on all fronts, and it did not turn down its brothers in the cordon states and its Palestinian brothers.

Since Jordan, along with the cordon states and its Palestinian brothers, participated in the Madrid conference on the basis of various negotiations tracks, and based on the resolutions of international legitimacy and the land-for-peace formula, then it is very natural that negotiations on the four tracks move with various speeds. There is no harm in achieving progress on one track so long as the negotiations are being held in the open and during daylight, and as long as their results are announced, one after the other.

If through peaceful negotiations Jordan can restore its rights to its land, water, and to the demarcation of borders, then why should it be required to restore them by war and bloodshed?

As long as the nation is fragmented, rancors, intrigues, plots, and grudges govern the policies of most of the regimes of this nation, and differences and conflicts are continuously affecting the nation's ranks, then how can we wager on alternative options to the peace negotiations option?

Those who protest the resumption of the Jordanian-Israeli negotiations and stage all forms of demonstrations against them, calling on Jordan to wage a war by itself to liberate Palestine from the sea to the river, must stop this idiotic and absurd course and this futile and stupid oneupmanship. They also must stop their attempts to confuse and embarrass our negotiating delegation, especially since these attempts will, in no way, affect the Israeli delegation. Here, I would like to ask: Can Jordan count on the stands of brothers who canceled the Arab boycott of Israel and premeditatedly maintained it on its people in order to harm its economy, trade, and the chances of its progress and development?

Tripartite Meeting Seen as 'Unique' Opportunity

JN2107103294 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
21 Jul 94 pp 1, 21

[Editorial: "A Long Political Day"]

[Text] Yesterday, Jordan once again expressed its strong commitment to peace and the requirements and consequences of this peace. This was stated in the news conference His Majesty King Husayn held with his guest, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, at the Royal Hashemite Court.

On this occasion, which sees intensive contacts on the Jordanian-Israeli track, his majesty underlined his full commitment to peace and the desire to achieve a better future for our people and for all peoples in the region, within the framework of a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace.

It was also stated, very clearly and in very precise words, that Jordan adheres firmly to its rights and its sovereignty over land and waters. It was also stated that regaining these rights and guaranteeing full sovereignty are prerequisites to the move to the final stage of the peace process, the signing of a peace treaty.

In all this, Jordan has reaffirmed what it already abided by toward the people, the nation, and the entire world; it adheres to the option of the peace negotiations as the means to regain national rights in a way that corresponds to, and integrates with, the efforts on the other tracks of negotiations, in an effort to achieve a comprehensive and just settlement.

This principled, courageous, and realistic Jordanian trend enjoys the support of the majority of our people, who have always given full confidence to the Hashemite leadership in all circumstances, phases, and junctures, particularly critical and fateful ones like the one we are witnessing these days.

This responsible and wise position is also received with understanding from, and support by the brothers and friends, particularly in the light of Jordan's success in breaking the stalemate and forcing Israel to acknowledge the Palestinian rights and the announcements by the U.S. officials that they were reconsidering their position toward Jordan.

Within this context of persistent political and diplomatic action, and following the important news conference by His Majesty King Husayn and Secretary Christopher, Jordan yesterday witnessed the tripartite meeting of the Jordanian and Israeli foreign ministers and the U.S. secretary of state on the Jordanian side of the Dead Sea.

That unique tripartite meeting provided yet another opportunity for Jordan to express, through Prime Minister al-Majali's speech, its firm position on the peace process, which aims at establishing justice, security, and stability for all peoples of the region and at ending a bitter chapter, which saw an endless number of catastrophes and injustices in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict, particularly the suffering inflicted on millions of the Palestinian people, whose political and humanitarian cause must be resolved if peace is to endure.

With such a clear view, insistence on principles, and courage to overcome the formalities and old-fashioned political habits, Jordan under King Husayn was able to push its way on the honorable and difficult road, amid the world's admiration and the people's support, toward the achievement of the most precious and dignified goal: The liberation of land, regaining rights, and the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace, in which there is no hegemony, arrogance, or encroachment on the others' rights, and in which all peoples, without exception, can enjoy prosperity and peace.

Birri: 'U.S. Pressure' on Lebanon for Separate Deal

NC2107061094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Nabih Birri declared the Lebanese stance rejecting a separate peace deal with Israel to Editors Association Doyen Milhim Karam yesterday. Speaker Birri noted that there is U.S. pressure on Lebanon to sign a separate peace deal with Israel similar to the pressure on Jordan and the PLO. He said: Every state is required to make concessions to please the United States and, ultimately, enter Israel's orbit. This policy has become clear.

Speaker Birri added: We are negotiating under the slogan of implementing UN Security Council Resolution 425. We must not drop this demand from our calculations. He said: Following my meeting with our brothers in the Syrian leadership and my meeting with President al-Asad, I can confirm the following: Hafiz al-Asad will accept nothing less than all the Golan Heights and all south Lebanon. One square meter less and it will not be enough. President al-Asad has often told me that south Lebanon and the Golan Heights are one and the same thing for him. Accordingly, he adheres both to the Golan Heights and south Lebanon. This adherence is not only observed by the Syrian leadership; it is also observed by the Syrian people. President al-Asad also believes that the Lebanese people adhere to the Golan Heights just as he adheres to south Lebanon.

Speaker Birri said Lebanon has two bargaining chips to wrest its rights from Israel, namely Syria and the Resistance. The source of strength of these bargaining chips is Lebanese national unity. But he rejected the formation of a joint Lebanese-Syrian delegation to the talks; that way it would not be said that Lebanon's sovereignty was being undermined.

Hizballah Denies Link to Buenos Aires Blast

'More Determined' To Fight

MM2107085794 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 21 Jul 94 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Hizballah Denies Link With Argentina Explosion"]

[Text] Beirut, AL-HAYAH—Commenting on the accusations leveled against the party in connection with the explosion in the Jewish Society building in Buenos Aires on Monday [18 July], as a result of which 34 people were killed, 147 were wounded and 76 are still missing, an authoritative Hizballah source said that "the enemy has not surprised us. The enemy reminds us of the Zionist mentality versed in spreading lies and falsehoods and highly experienced in hatching conspiracies that serve its schemes vis-a-vis emigration, settlement, and occupation in all the usurped Arab territories."

The source added that "while we deny any link with the Buenos Aires incident, we remind the world as a whole of the Zionist gangs' black history as regards shedding blood, killing the innocent, and spreading corruption using all means of terror, crime, and the latest weapons of murder and destruction. We tell the international terrorist Yitzhaq Rabin to look carefully at the dictionary of nations to realize that not a single people in the world has been spared crimes, attacks, and massacres committed by his Zionist gangs for the sake of achieving his settlement aims and schemes."

Concluding, the source said that "the false allegations, hollow threats, and immoral political and media operations launched by the enemy's leaders from time to time will change nothing as regards the image of the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon, west al-Biq'a, and all Arab and Muslim holy places. They will only make us more determined to exercise our legitimate right to fight the occupiers and their mercenaries. They will not change the clear truth about the valiant and brave Islamic resistance we have—very proudly—adopted as a strategic option until the liberation of the last inch of our sacred land."

Al-Musawi Denies Involvement

LD2107101594 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Husayn al-Musawi, the head of Lebanon's Islamic Amal Movement, has termed as baseless the Zionist regime's allegations that the Lebanese Hizballah was involved in the bomb blast incident in the Zionist center in Argentina. In the course of some remarks in Ba'labakk today, he also said: These allegations, which are not supported by any reason or evidence, are mere accusations, which in themselves constitute a kind of terrorism.

The head of the Islamic Amal Movement added: Leveling such charges against the Muslims of Lebanon is because of their struggle against the occupiers and their confrontation against the Zionists' acts of terrorism.

Defendant Said To Enter U.S. With Turkish Passport

NC2107105494 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 18 Jul 94 p 7

[Text] Local security sources have disclosed that Turkish Government and security officials were on close terms with Ghassan Tuma, the principal defendant in the series of bombings and assassinations that took place in Lebanon. These officials provided Tuma with a special Turkish passport and facilitated his entry into the United States. The reason for this Turkish gesture was the services that Tuma rendered for Turkey when he was chief of the security department of the now-disbanded Lebanese Forces.

Tuma killed a number of opposition Armenian leaders, especially in the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia [ASALA] which was fighting against the Turks because of Turkey's persecution of the Armenians at the start of this century.

Speaker Birri To Sign Media Bill 23 Jul

NC2007170494 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Nabih Birri, in a dialogue today with a delegation from the Editors Association Council led by Milhim Karam, said that he will sign on Saturday [23 July] the bill permitting the broadcasting of news and political commentaries in the audio and visual media. He added that the bill, and other bills passed by the chamber in its last session, are now being printed. He noted that following the summer recess the Chamber of Deputies will hasten to study and endorse the [government-proposed] draft law organizing the audiovisual media.

Birri expressed his belief that both the legislative and executive authorities had done their duty as far as the issue of media is concerned. He affirmed that the storm in the government [over the media bill] ended in Zahlah yesterday. He added: What happened was normal and was not meant to break the government's backbone. He noted that several collisions had taken place before but were not brought to the limelight.

Birri renewed his call to General Michel 'Awn to return to Lebanon, stressing that he is not joking with him. He pointed out that he will meet soon with more Christian bishops and will attend a rally in Kasrawan.

Birri noted that Lebanon possesses two things to help it gain its rights from Israel: Syria and the resistance. The source of strength of these things is Lebanon's national unity. However, he rejected the notion of forming a unified Syrian-Lebanese delegation to the negotiations to avoid any talk about Lebanon's sovereignty.

Junblatt Criticizes Timing

NC2007174194 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Excerpt] Minister of Refugees Affairs Walid Junblatt has stated that the bill passed by the Chamber of Deputies regarding the audio and visual media was well intentioned but its timing was bad. Coming just before U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's tour, the action made it appear that freedoms were oppressed in Lebanon.

Junblatt made these remarks at a news conference he held at his office, during which he discussed a number of current issues. He criticized Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfiyr's positions on the media, naturalization, and calls for a national dialogue. He pointed out that the various Lebanese factions, sects, and opinions are represented in the Chamber of Deputies. [passage omitted]

Antitank Rockets Fired at UNIFIL Helicopter

NC2107102294 Kafr Killa Voice of the South in Arabic 0930 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] A United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] spokesman has stated that gunmen fired anti-tank rockets at a UNIFIL helicopter on a routine training mission last night. The rockets missed. The officer said UNIFIL has opened an investigation into the incident.

The officer expressed surprise that fire was opened on a helicopter carrying the UN emblem and flashing green and red light signals at night. The officer noted that this was the second such incident in two weeks.

Israeli Fighters Raid Southern Areas

NC2007160094 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1544 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Israeli warplanes carried out three raids on the Jabal al-Rafi' area at around 1800 today. The Israeli aircraft, which fired three air-to-surface missiles at the area, were intercepted by the Lebanese Army's ground defenses.

Meanwhile, the occupation forces deployed in al-Zaffatah bombarded the Iqlim al-Tuffah's ridges—specifically Mlita, al-Luwayzah, and Jabal Safi—at about 1300 today. At 1400 the Israeli forces intensified their shelling of the said areas as well as Jabal al-Rafi', 'Ayn Bu Siwar, and Jarju'. The heavy shelling of Iqlim al-Tuffah is still continuing.

At 1700 the occupation forces in al-Zaffatah resumed their shelling of the Iqlim al-Tuffah ridges. Shells fell on Mlita, al-Luwayzah, and Jabal Safi.

Report Hits on Hizballah Sites

TA2007173794 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] spokesman has announced that Air Force aircraft this afternoon raided terrorist targets in the area of Jabal al-Rafi' and Jabal 'Ayzagan in south Lebanon. The sites are used by Hizballah. All our planes returned safely to base and reported accurate hits.

Hizballah Condemns Erez 'Massacre'

MM2007163394 London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 19 Jul 94 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Hizballah: Erez Massacre an Example of Israeli Peace"]

[Text] Beirut, AL-HAYAH—Hizballah has said that the "new massacre committed by the Zionist occupation forces at the Erez checkpoint is another example of the promised Israeli peace that they [not further specified]

are competing to achieve through separate deals, direct contacts, and speedy normalization with the usurping Zionist entity."

In a statement issued yesterday Hizballah added that "the al-Ibrahimi Mosque massacre committed a few months ago was not the first massacre on the Zionist entity's record, which is full of terror, aggression, and mass murder. Nor will the Erez massacre will be the last. Because the Zionist entity was established as a result of mass murders, which it is continuing to commit. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin even predicted this when he stressed after the al-Ibrahimi Mosque massacre, and repeated again after the announcement of the results of the investigation into that massacre, that he did not rule out a repetition of it."

The statement pointed out that "the continued Israeli aggression against our people in Lebanon and Palestine is nothing but irrefutable evidence of the shape and type of a peace based on oppression, aggression, terror, and occupation, regardless of any values, conventions, and laws. This is the concept of peace promised by the U.S. Administration—the peace that it is working to achieve through the frequent visits made by its secretary of state, Warren Christopher. And the massacre's coincidence with his arrival in the region on a new tour is evidence of the coordination and integration between the aggression and terrorism practiced by the Zionist enemy on the ground in Lebanon and Palestine. The pressures exerted by the U.S. Administration to secure separate deals fulfill Israeli-U.S. terms at the expense of our cause, land, holy places, destiny, and future."

Hizballah stressed that, "if the massacre has occurred under the new situation resulting from the early implementation of self-rule in Gaza and Jericho, it is further

evidence that the reality has not changed and that the Palestinian people's conditions there have changed from bad to worse. They were afflicted by an occupying enemy perpetrating terrorism, torture, and mass murder, but that enemy is still weighing heavily on their territory, and in fact the self-rule authority and its police are helping it to besiege, suppress, and subjugate this people and destroy their will for the sake of a humiliating deal signed by (Palestinian President Yasir) 'Arafat to eliminate the Palestinian cause and flout the Palestinian people's rights."

Hizballah added: "As for the Palestinian police elements lured by their deviationist leadership, which is inciting them against their own kinfolk and people, we remind them that their duty is to defend their people, not to become a force of repression and suppression. And to help the people against their enemy, not vice versa. This is what their people expect from them."

Hizballah's 'Imad Mughaniyah Arrives

*NC2107091494 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic
18 Jul 94 p 9*

[Text] Following Israel's abduction of Believers Resistance leader Mustafa al-Dirani from his village of Qasr Naba and Israel's air raid on Hizballah's training camp in 'Ayn Kawkab, in which 26 people were martyred and scores wounded, 'Imad Mughniyah, known for his involvement in the kidnapping of foreign hostages in Lebanon, arrived in Lebanon.

However, the security meetings that were later held in the presence of Hizballah leaders and Iranian officials clearly rejected the repetition of the operations involving attacks on foreigners or their abduction.

Editorials View U.S. Role in Peace Talks

JN2107095294 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0445 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Strength of the Syrian Position," the newspaper TISHRIN says: In his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad has reiterated Syria's desire to render the peace process, particularly on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks of negotiations, a success on the basis of the terms of reference governing it in order to achieve just and comprehensive peace in the region.

The paper adds: Christopher has described his talks with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad as very good and substantive. Arab and international political and media quarters have commended Syria's position, which is eager to achieve peace, render the peace process a success, and break the logjam plaguing it due to Israeli obstructions and obstacles, which, if unresolved, could jeopardize the entire peace process.

The paper goes on to say: It is impossible to achieve peace in the region as long as the Israeli occupation is maintained, and as long as Israel persists in its maneuvers and games to evade the requirements of peace. By contrast, Syria has responded favorably to the requirements of the peace process. The stands it has taken has allowed the U.S. peace initiative to proceed toward the achievement of just and comprehensive peace. The role Syria has played in this regard has allowed for the convocation of the Madrid conference. Additionally, Syria has taken part in the Washington talks. In a nutshell, Syria has always been, and will always remain, at the forefront of the parties seeking to activate and promote the peace process. Similarly, it will spare no effort to meet the requirements of the peace process, as stipulated in the Madrid formula and the land-for-peace principle.

The paper cautions that it is impossible to achieve a lasting and viable peace without Syria, and without its key role in the peace process. The paper adds: Syria will never accept anything short of complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan and southern Lebanon.

The paper commends the sound Syrian position, which has advocated full withdrawal in exchange for full peace, arguing that there can be no peace as long as the occupation is maintained. Likewise, any peaceful settlement that does not realize the aspirations of our Arab people and ensures the restoration of their rights and territories is doomed to failure, the paper notes.

TISHRIN concludes by saying: The strength of the Syrian position basically stems from the fact that Syria is the Arabs' conscience. Syria believes that the prerequisites of just and comprehensive peace, as enshrined in the relevant international legitimacy resolutions, must be met.

Under the headline "The Foundation," the newspaper AL-THAWRAH says: Syria, which paved the way for the start of the peace process out of an eagerness to achieve a just and comprehensive solution grounded in the relevant international legitimacy resolutions, has convinced the international community of its genuine and serious desire to achieve just and comprehensive peace, which would restore territories and rights to their rightful owners, and end all manifestations of the conflict. This would usher in a new era of stability and security in the region.

The paper adds: Syria has consistently underscored that there can be no bargaining over territories and rights. There is no room for blackmailing us over these two issues, because the possibility of Syria's abandoning its rights or showing submissiveness is out of the question. Syria's adherence to its constants will remain unchanged. Syria will not give in to maneuvers, pressures, temptation, or intimidation. The time factor has worked to its advantage, although some have entertained the notion that the time factor could help isolate Syria, drawing support for their argument from the relentless fall of fallen people into the pit of partial solutions and separate deals.

AL-THAWRAH goes on to say: Syria, which has faith in the future, draws strength from the intrinsic solidity of its people and its Arab masses, who are capable of discrimination regardless of the tough circumstances and conditions, which have not weakened Syria's resolve.

The paper addresses the obstructionist Israeli approach, which has prevented the success of the regional peace process, saying: Israel has refused to comply with the relevant international legitimacy resolutions, which constitute the foundations of the U.S. peace initiative and the Madrid conference. Moreover, Israel has thus far failed to subscribe to the land-for-peace formula drafted by the U.S. cosponsor of the talks, which is aware of the relevant international resolutions providing for complete withdrawal.

AL-THAWRAH concludes by saying: Syria, which has always called for promoting and continuing the peace process, would like to underscore its tenable positions, which stipulate that complete withdrawal is a prerequisite for just and comprehensive peace.

Under the headline, "An Opportunity for Further Moves or Another Phase of Stalemate," the newspaper AL-BATH says: Damascus supports all serious and impartial efforts to achieve the desired peace. This is because the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace is a strategic Syrian objective. During the current tour of the region by the U.S. secretary of state, just as was the case in his previous tours, there has been no problem between Syria and the United States. As a matter of fact, Syria forestalled Christopher's tour by declaring that it is ready to discuss all issues with him to achieve a just and comprehensive peace, which has been the objective of the peace process, within the parameters of national

sovereignty, the principles enshrined in the UN Charter, and the relevant international legitimacy resolutions.

AL-BA'TH adds: Christopher has definitely seen Syria's constant eagerness and ardent desire to render the peace process a success. In a recent letter to President Clinton on the U.S. Independence Day, His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad emphasized that the achievement of peace is a firm Syrian objective. Moreover, Christopher has been told by His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad that Syria seeks to make the peace process, particularly the Syrian and Lebanese tracks of negotiations, a success on the basis of the terms of reference governing it in order to achieve just and comprehensive peace in the region.

The paper indicates that there is no problem between Syria and the United States, adding that if the U.S. Administration remains committed to the peace process in accordance with the terms of reference set for it, it will find itself close to Syria. There can be no difference between the two sides if each of them remains committed to the terms of reference of the peace process, and works to uphold them.

The paper adds: The U.S. Administration is well aware that the problem lies in Israel's refusal to effect complete withdrawal from the Golan, southern Lebanon, and the other occupied Arab territories.

The paper notes that Syria is a key side that works, in word and deed, to achieve just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

'Full Withdrawal' From Golan, S. Lebanon Demanded

JN2007201494 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1140 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher's tour of the region has once again underlined an important fact; namely, that the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is impossible without Syria's basic and effective participation. Moreover, it is also impossible to realize this peace without full Israeli withdrawal from the Golan and southern Lebanon because ending the occupation is the real key to a genuine, just, and comprehensive peace in the region.

When he received Secretary Christopher, President Hafiz al-Asad reiterated Syria's eagerness to promote the peace process, especially on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks in accordance with the principles on which this process was based for the realization of a just and comprehensive peace in the region.

Meanwhile, Arab and international political and media circles have been praising Syria's pan-Arab and pioneering stand and the importance of Syria's role which adheres to the principles of a just and comprehensive

solution within the developments of the peace process. This clearly indicates that Syria is the key to the peace process and that the peace process will never succeed if it remains far from Syria or far from its leading role of the peace process.

Therefore, Syria emphasizes its great eagerness to realize peace and save the peace march from its current stalemate. Syria has never closed the doors of peace. Indeed, it was Syria's response and commitment to the factors of just and comprehensive peace and the pillars of the peace process, that opened the way to the Madrid conference and the Washington negotiations.

Today, Syria reemphasizes its assertion that ending the occupation of the Golan, southern Lebanon, and the other Arab territories will place the region on the road to a genuine peace and will move it in one jump to peace and stability. However, contrary to the Syrian position, which is eager to promote the peace process, Israel is creating obstacles and impediments, inventing pretexts, and refusing to deal positively and seriously with the bases of the peace process. At the same time, Israel intentionally fails to deal with substantive issues in the peace process, raising doubts over the feasibility of this process and the pillars on which it was built. Israel is trying to undermine and circumvent these pillars.

Everybody knows that this Israeli policy is aimed at dealing a blow to the peace march and foil the U.S. and international efforts aimed at making peace and implementing the international resolutions by effecting the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Arab territories.

While emphasizing its great eagerness to promote the peace march, Syria realizes perfectly that Israel's avoidance of the requirements of peace reveals aims and intentions that are against peace and security and the region's stability. This necessitates implementing the principles and bases of the peace process as they were stipulated at the Madrid conference and translating them into realities on the ground. This requires Israel's commitment to these principles and pillars that are based on the land-for-peace principle and on implementing Resolutions 242 and 338 concerning the Golan and Resolution 425 concerning southern Lebanon.

Therefore, Syria will never accept less than Israel's full withdrawal from the Golan and southern Lebanon in order to reach a just and comprehensive peace.

Jordanian Reaction to Dead Sea Trilateral Reported

JN2107064094 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 21 Jul 194

[Text] Israeli political quarters believe the meeting yesterday among the Jordanian and Israeli foreign ministers and the U.S. secretary of state constitutes a great success for the Rabin-led Israeli Government and its policies.

The Radio Orient correspondent in occupied Jerusalem said that judging by statements from senior Israeli officials, one can say that the change witnessed on the Israeli-Jordanian track of negotiations could move the two sides from a state of war to a state of comprehensive cooperation in all areas, which is the solution Tel Aviv sought in order to avert differences on the issues of water resources and borders and to link the Jordanian economy with the Israeli economy.

The correspondent added: Official Israeli statements have confirmed that Jordan is heading toward a peace treaty with Israel, after it received U.S. promises of economic aid, and that its military debts to the United States will be written off.

The correspondent went on to say: Reports on the negotiations held by the two sides said Israel has offered Jordan the use of Israeli ports on the Mediterranean and the opening of its airspace for Jordanian planes as part of a blanket economic package deal concluded under U.S. auspices. These reports added that the tripartite summit, to be held in Washington among U.S. President Bill Clinton, King Husayn of Jordan, and Israeli Prime

Minister Yitzhaq Rabin, will witness the announcement of a series of long-term economic cooperation agreements.

With regard to reactions to these developments, the Jordanian Progressive Arab Ba'th Party and the Constitutional Jordanian Arab Front Party have said that singling out Jordan by others and its pursuit of unilateral deals away from the Arabs make it vulnerable to Israeli ambitions and dangers, and poses dangers to its territory, security, and future.

In a statement issued in Amman yesterday, the two parties added that Arab and Jordanian national rights can be properly and honorably restored only when there is a common Arab stand, as well as coordination and cooperation with the Arab sides concerned with the peace process, namely, Syria and Lebanon.

The statement reviewed the policy Israel has pursued since the convocation of the Madrid conference, asserting that Israel has always sought to deal with the Arab sides one at a time to evade the requirements enshrined in the relevant international legitimacy resolutions, and the land-for-peace formula.

India

Concern Conveyed to UK on Pakistan Kashmir Moves

BK2107054094 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] India has conveyed to Britain its concern at Pakistan's efforts to internationalize the Kashmir issue at a time when the tide has clearly turned against militancy in the state. The external affairs minister, Mr. Dinesh Singh, who called on the foreign secretary, Mr. Douglas Hurd, in London yesterday, told him that the chances of reviving the political process in Jammu and Kashmir look promising. Mr. Singh also informed Mr. Hurd of measures taken by the Indian Government to observe transparency in the state and strengthen safeguards against possible human rights violations. According to an Indian spokesman, the British side showed understanding of the context of terrorism in which the human rights issue in Kashmir should be seen.

Action Taken Against 174 for Kashmir 'Excesses'

BK1607122594 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 14 Jul 94 p 5

[Text] Jammu—The Central Government has taken action against 174 securitymen, including 32 officers of the Army, Border Security Force [BSF] and Central Reserve Police Force [CRPF], for their alleged excesses in Jammu and Kashmir reports PTI.

BSF personnel top the list of persons against whom action has been taken, followed by CRPF and Army respectively, according to an official report.

The report, a response of the Government of India to a report of Amnesty International entitled *Unnatural fate, disappearances and impunity in the Indian states of Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab*, said punishments included imprisonment ranging from less than three months to 10 years, dismissals, removal from service and compulsory retirement, reduction in rank and loss of seniority and suspensions, arrests, pending inquiry and court martial.

As many as 70 security personnel, including three officers of the Army, received imprisonments extended up to a maximum of 10 years. One Army officer was sentenced to seven years of imprisonment, while two others got a year's sentence.

Of the 70 sent to jail, 40 belonged to the BSF and 15 each to the Army and CRPF, the report said, adding that of these 20 had been dismissed from their services.

In the category of removal from service and compulsory retirement, 13 belonged to the CRPF and one each to the Army and BSF.

Seven personnel were demoted, including one officer of the Army. This punishment was awarded by reduction of rank or loss of seniority.

In departmental penalties, there were 82 cases which included 14 Army personnel, 36 BSF men and 32 CRPF officials. These cases involved suspensions, arrests and court martial pending inquiry.

Commenting on the action taken against the Army and other security personnel for human rights violations, an official spokesman said here that by itself it was a fitting reply to different human rights organisations which complained that no notice was being taken in India of the excesses.

The spokesman said the Government's action reflected its concern for safeguarding the human rights of people in Jammu and Kashmir. The Government had not hesitated in taking stern action wherever necessary against the personnel of its own forces and this policy would be pursued in future also, he added.

Minister Reiterates Commitment to Human Rights

BK2107104694 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Salman Khurshid, today reiterated the government's firm commitment to preserve and promote human rights. Delivering the keynote address at a global conference on human rights and terrorism in New Delhi, he said the country has developed its own concept of human rights based on dignity, brotherhood, peace, and communal harmony. The minister said uniform international norms for human rights cannot be unilaterally defined. Expressing concern over the growing terrorism in different parts of the world, Mr. Salman Khurshid said there is a danger that the terrorists will have access to nuclear weapons if the international community does not take suitable measures.

Earlier, inaugurating the conference, the Lok Sabha speaker, Mr. Shivraj Patil, underlined the need to create a worldwide public opinion against terrorism which is taking a heavy toll in different parts of the world.

Daily Notes 'Top-Heavy,' Aging Army Officer Corp

BK2007131994 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 17 Jul 94 p 9

[Text] New Delhi—While the Indian Army is getting leaner, it is also growing into an older force. Thanks to continuing shortage of officers at the cutting edge, hasty cadre reviews and the immense pressure for promotions, the top-heavy Army is looking older and hardly meaner.

While war experience suggests that the age of commanding officers of field units must not exceed 35 years, in the case of the Indian Army, it is currently fluctuating

around 44-46 years, a recent study has found. Two years ago, the Army Staff told the Parliament's estimates committee probing defence manpower and management, that they were attempting to bring the average age of commanding officers from 46 to 42.

Although some progress has been achieved in the intervening years, the fact that commanding officers of field units, who form the backbone of the Army, are still 40-plus, bodes ill for a service that is justifiably placing heavy premium on its 'teeth', rather than the tail.

The dangers of a greying army were coldly brought in the IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] operations in Sri Lanka where units commanded by younger officers consistently out-performed their elders.

The Indian Army's "age balance" vis-a-vis the Pakistani Army has sharply shifted in the latter's favour. Rawalpindi GHQs [General Headquarters], thanks in no small measure to the stranglehold it enjoy over the country's power structure, has managed the pyramid structure far better; with quicker promotions, the battalion commanders are younger and fitter.

This "unfavourable age profile" as the Estimates Committee put it, was largely because of the cadre reviews in 1980 and in 1984. "Cadre review enhanced ranks held by an officer without corresponding enhancement authority thus causing an imbalance in his position besides giving rise to an unfavourable age profile". Translated, in real terms this has meant that several Major Generals are handing duties earlier discharged by Lt. Colonels.

As part of the cadre review command of units was raised to the level of full Colonels, rather than Lt. Colonels. Not surprising then, that the commanding officer who has waited 20 years before being given charge is in his forties.

The Army staff which told the Parliamentary Committee that cadre review brought in 'maturity' at the upper echelons is now understood to be toying with yet another review, on the grounds that the last one was done a decade ago.

Pressure for promotions had reached such a peak that in some celebrated cases, nearly 90 per cent of Brigadiers in a year's batch were cleared for promotion as Major Generals. This largess seriously violated the pyramid rank structure of the Army under which promotion rate in the ranks of Lt. Colonels and above should not exceed 40 per cent of a year's intake.

And while the upper echelon have been helping themselves to these promotions, the waiting list for promotions at the lower levels (Colonels and below) is rising as a direct result. "The pyramid has been turned upside down" said a Colonel.

Lack of high quality recruit and the attendant wastage in the selection process has compounded the Army's manpower problems leading to shortage of officers in key

ranks. The Army continues to be short of 8,000 Captains causing serious concern as it is, this rank which is really the cutting edge of an operational unit.

A survey carried out among students recently showed that out of nine careers, the Army was placed at seventh position, in order of preference. While the training institutions including the National Defence Academy (NDA), and Indian Military Academy (IMA) are admitting students to capacity, the wastage rate is rising, given the sub-standard quality of entrants choosing the services as a career.

The only silver lining is that the Army, forced by resources constraints has managed to cut flab considerably. According to the latest figures put out by the Army staff, "teeth to tail" ratio is now down to 70:30. This effectively means that for every 70 combat troops, there are 30 support troops.

Improving Jammu Kashmir Administration Planned

BK1507125294 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 13 Jul 94 p 12

[Text] Giving the 33,000 strong police force its rightful role and respect and toning up the civil administration are on top of the Government's Jammu and Kashmir agenda, Union Home Secretary K. Padmanabhaiah said here today.

As the "fear of the gun" has come down substantially and so have killings by militants, the Centre [federal government] in close consultation with the Governor's administration, is working on a time-table that aims at "civilising" the administration, even as the security forces continue their vigil and mopping up operations throughout the troubled State.

Talking to select newsmen here Mr. Padmanabhaiah, who has been frequently visiting Srinagar and Jammu to oversee the arrangements, said the police force "cannot be wished away", and deserved to be given proper law-keeping duties. Only from an active force whose morale is high could the "bad eggs" be detected and removed. A fully paid, but partially active force doing mainly sentry, security and traffic duties, could hardly be expected to give its best.

Pointing to the fact that the State exchequer spent Rs [rupees] 150 crore on the police force annually, Mr. Padmanabhaiah said: "a working force is easier to be cleansed and strengthened".

The same held true for the civil administration. The State has an annual plan of Rs 900 crore, in addition to the non-Plan expenditure of Rs 1600 crore, most of it underwritten by the Centre. It was time to put all this to positive use by activating the economy. Incentives would be provided for horticulture, which is returning to normalcy. The tourism industry, also improving albeit slowly, could also be made to stand on its feet.

Displaying "no illusions" about pitfalls and uncertainties in the process, the Home Secretary said it was like a game of chess, a slow, in some ways painful process that would have to be gone through to end years of problems culminating into the four-year period of militancy.

All concerned in the Government could succeed only if the political parties and joined heads to achieve common a goal. After all, they would have to bell the cat, as it were, and create an atmosphere where the fear of the gun would end, and the rule of law headed by democratic force would prevail. The official pointed out that almost the entire lot of political persons were in Jammu or Delhi or elsewhere, and this distancing from the people needed to end soon as a prerequisite for restoration of normalcy.

The Government, on its part, was gearing up on various domestic and external fronts. India's case on Kashmir, largely defensive and reactive so far, needed to be placed in a forthright manner both at home among the intelligentsia, especially the Muslim component, and the world community. The External Publicity Division of the Ministry of External Affairs is being strengthened with this in mind.

A related exercise Mr. Padma Nabhaiah said, was the systematic listing of foreign mercenaries active in the Valley. Pakistanis, Afghans, and even Lebanese and Libyans had been detained in this connection. Acting against them, and making their respective Governments aware of their responsibilities would be part of the task to curb the mercenaries' inflow into the Valley.

Gathering "actionable intelligence" and coordinating action on it would be the main task of the civil administration in consonance with the security forces in the coming weeks. This would help in identifying the youths held on suspicion, who could be returned to their families, given jobs and rehabilitated.

"We can turn the tables in no time,—provided there is good administration", the Home Secretary remarked.

He declined to specify ~~any~~ timetable for elections, but said the process initiated now must continue for an adequate period before the political exercise could be embarked upon. He had no doubt that once the civil administration was activated and the political processes were initiated, it would not be difficult to hold elections in consonance with all the rules of the Election Commission.

Article Views Rao Foreign Relations Challenges

BK1807143494 Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English 15 Jul 94 p 12

[Report by M.K. Dhar]

[Text] New Delhi, July 14—Three years of political stability under Prime Minister P. V. Narasimha Rao, after a period of confusion and turmoil, have enhanced

India's stature internationally, increased investors' confidence and laid firm foundations for the success of economic reforms. But, in foreign relations many challenges still remain, calling for refashioning of policy.

In the face of the fact that the country has been without a functioning Foreign Minister for the past two years, Mr. Rao has fashioned the foreign policy to meet the challenges arising from serious and volatile events, collective pressure on nonproliferation, disarmament and human rights issues and increasingly adversarial relations with Pakistan, which can be categorised as an international outlaw.

There is genuine admiration abroad for the manner in which Mr. Rao has handled the internal political situation on which depends a country's clout outside its borders. The demolition of the disputed structure at Ayodhya, the bomb blast in Bombay intended to paralyse India's commercial capital escalation in the Pakistan Inter Services Intelligence-sponsored terrorist activity in Kashmir and doubts about continuity of economic policies had serious external ramifications.

Some countries tried to control and deny access to sophisticated technologies in the sphere of space exploration and satellite development. India had to adjust to the emerging new global regimes affecting international trade and transborder movement of technologies. Mr. Rao was called upon to project India's economic potential and capability in a manner where external contributions would continue so as to ensure faster socio-economic growth.

Mr. Rao sought to stabilise relations with India's neighbours despite the hostile attitude displayed by Pakistan which, after having acquired nuclear capability, has launched a proxy war against the country.

In spite of Mr. Rao's several meetings with former Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, Islamabad has not responded positively to the many proposals made by India for normalisation of ties and to resolve the outstanding disputes.

An erroneous impression is sought to be created that India reneged on its word to demilitarise the entire Siachen area, as demanded by Pakistan, and accept Islamabad's claim on nearly 4,000 sq km of territory sliced by an imaginary line drawn from NJ 9842 to the Karakoram pass in the north. The latest Indian proposals are realistic and will help defuse tension which Pakistan ought to accept. Even as Islamabad sought to escalate tension in Kashmir and owned up a US-sponsored proposal for multilateral talks on nuclear non-proliferation in South Asia, India refused to give up its principled stand on a universal, nondiscriminatory non-proliferation regime.

Even after its humiliation at the UN Human Rights Commission meeting at Geneva on the human rights issue, Pakistan has not given up India-bashing at every forum and increasing the level of material support to

terrorism in Kashmir. Despite Mr Rao's many successes in the sphere of foreign policy, Pakistan's disruptive role remains a factor to reckon with for a considerable period of time.

India has now entered a new, constructive and cooperative phase of relationship with all nuclear powers—US, China, Russia, UK and France—which now accept New Delhi's security concerns. It took a great deal of effort and perseverance on Mr Rao's part to convince the international community that India did not intend to build up a nuclear arsenal and was genuinely interested in universal disarmament. His plea that this non-issue ought to be relegated to the background and encouragement given to India to make a success of its economic reforms has struck a sympathetic cord and evoked a positive response.

The impact of economic liberalisation has had a profound effect on India's relations with the major economic powers which are now keen to invest and also transfer technology. The change that has been brought about in the United States' attitude had been widely welcomed, now that contentious issues such as proliferation, missile development and human rights have been relegated to a secondary place in Indo-US relations.

After the disintegration of the former Soviet Union and the subsequent economic and political changes that took place in Eastern Europe, Mr. Rao had to build a new structure of relations with these countries. The relations with CIS and Eastern European countries are now being rebuilt according to the changed requirements. The relations with China have entered a cooperative phase, particularly after the signing of the agreement on peace and tranquillity and troops reduction along the Line of Actual Control during Mr. Rao's Beijing visit in September 1993. Although China has not given up its claims in many sectors, peace-reigns all along the border and one more trade route is being opened this month.

Having entered his fourth year in office, Mr. Rao envisages that the problems of proxy wars, transborder export of terrorism, open and clandestine encouragement to religious fundamentalism and nuclear proliferation will remain problems of the future also.

'Defensive Stance' on Pakistan Talks Viewed

*BK2007131894 Delhi JANSATTA in Hindi
18 Jul 94 p 6*

[Editorial: "So Much Leniency Is of No Use"]

[Text] Our Foreign Secretary has been considerably lenient in his observation that Pakistan currently is no more interested in continuing the dialogue between the two nations than it ever has been. So far there have been seven rounds of secretary-level talks between the two countries. The last meeting took place in Islamabad between 1 and 3 January this year. The eighth round of talks is a nonstarter because of Pakistan's illogical conditions to resume the dialogue. Pakistan says the talks

can be meaningful only when India guarantees human rights in Kashmir and releases the people arrested for their terrorist activities. Such absurd demands could only be raised by someone who is totally devoid of diplomatic etiquette and decency. What should or should not be done in Kashmir is up to India since it is her internal matter. Pakistan has no right to demand anything from India on Kashmir. Even then, if Pakistan continues to make demands, it means that Pakistan wants to interfere publicly in India's affairs and merely respond with displeased looks and complaints. We display such softness that it makes Pakistan bold enough to commit more mischief instead of teaching her some basics in diplomatic manners.

Pakistan, right from the very beginning, has been playing an active and open role to help some segments of the Kashmiri population turn terrorist while at the same time she also has been raising the issue of human rights in Kashmir. Her posturing lacks finesse and is so evident that the countries of the world, who want to know, have no difficulty in seeing how openly Pakistan supports terrorism in Kashmir by providing weapons, money, and training to the terrorists. Whatever little anti-Pak reaction that has developed internationally is only because of Pakistan's support for terrorism; we have not contributed in any way towards creating this atmosphere nor are we able to derive any advantage from this anti-Pak reaction. Our stance regarding the Kashmir issue often is defensive and Pakistan's stance continues to be offensive despite the total exposure of her vile intentions. Pakistan's strategy always has been to keep problems between her and India out in the open because she then gets media attention, which allows her to vent her venom against her neighbor. This seems to be a prerequisite for any political party or group in Pakistan to reach the seat of authority or power. Spitting venom against India eases their entry into power. India obviously has to emphasize the need to hold bilateral talks between the two countries to prevent the Kashmir issue from being internationalized, but even an insignificant country like Pakistan sees no strength in Indian diplomacy which will force it to the negotiating table. The result is her undaunted indulgence in mischief against India. Sooner or later we will have to give Pakistan appropriate treatment to make her sober and sensible. Most certainly, our continued defensive stance is not going to be of any use in this effort.

Minister Hints at Further Economic Liberalization

BK2107053794 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The finance minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, has said that the present comfortable foreign exchange reserve situation should be used to further liberalize and give added boost to the economy. The foreign exchange reserves have crossed the \$17 billion mark. The current accounts deficit has also come down from more than \$9.6 billion in 1990-91 to about \$230 million in 1993-94, the lowest ever. Addressing the consultative committee

attached to his ministry in New Delhi, Dr. Manmohan Singh said the present liberalization of imports was not out of line with current practice in South Asian countries. He said there is a need for new strategies to respond to emerging challenges. He also said efforts to improve balance of payments position must continue.

Balance of Payments Situation Detailed

BK2007162894 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Foreign exchange reserves have crossed the \$17 billion mark. The current account deficit has also come down from more than \$9.6 billion in 1990-91 to about \$230 million in 1993-94—the lowest ever.

Addressing the Parliamentary Consultative Committee meeting in New Delhi today, the finance minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, said the balance of payment situation has never been as strong as it is now. He said there was a sharp decline of about 6 percent in the debt service to current receipts ratio in 1993-94 as compared to the previous year. Dr. Manmohan Singh said that the present comfortable foreign exchange reserve position should be used to further liberalize and give another boost to the economy.

Earlier, members of the Consultative Committee, while stressing the need to check inflation, said the government should be firm and clear that foreign investments should not result in inflation and should not only be geared towards development. Members wanted the government to have a time-bound program to reduce external debts. They wanted more incentives to encourage exports, especially agro-based exports.

Iran

Khamene'i Delivers Speech on Terrorism

LD2007162694 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1001 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Speech by Ayatollah 'Ali Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, to "a large number of various classes of the people and employees of government departments and organizations," on 20 July; place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Crowd chants: "We are all your soldiers, Khamene'i," "We are at your command, Khamene'i," "Death to America," "Death to Israel," "Death to hypocrites"] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

I have a point in relation to the Law Enforcement Forces, which I would like to talk a little about, that is public safety. The duty of the Law Enforcement Forces is to maintain security. Public safety means the people should not feel scared, threatened, or insecure in their workplaces or at home. It is very important. [passage omitted]

To fulfill that need it is necessary for the government to exert its authority. The Islamic government, which is a symbol of God and the power of the people in society, should fulfill that general need of the people authoritatively. Why? Because those who disturb the security of the public are not weak people; they carry knives and weapons; they are terrorists; they use the cover of darkness and the fact that the people are asleep and unaware to harm the people's lives. There is no difference between a person who picks the locks of houses or shops to steal and a person who threatens the womenfolk and does not leave them alone on the street. That is also insecurity.

One cannot ask them nicely and say: Please do not disturb the peace. That is not the proper place for niceties; it is the place for authority.

The Law Enforcement Forces are, therefore, a symbol of our national strength. They are the manifestation of an authority, on which the people rely to crush the saboteur and to stop him. These forces must apply their authority properly, they must not be short of resources, and they must be run by healthy individuals. These forces are like a sword. They are a weapon; the nation hands this weapon over to an authority and orders the authority to create security. What sort of a person should be in charge of these forces? He should be pious, trustworthy, and interested in the destiny of the people. He should not be the cause of insecurity himself. Otherwise he will become like a weapon in the hand of a drunk, in the hand of an enemy. Reformation of the Law Enforcement Forces, strengthening of the Law Enforcement Forces, and respect for the Law Enforcement Forces are all, therefore, necessary.

Praise be to God and thanks to the vigilance of the legislative and executive organs, the Law Enforcement Forces have changed so much today that the extent of their improvement is like the difference between the earth and the sky. The improvement is beyond comparison. Praise be to God, some healthy individuals are in charge of this force. Of course morale should increase in this force daily, lest the remnants of the satanic era [shah's reign] with low moral and cultural values succeed in realizing their plots. Be careful. Every one of you, brothers working in the Law Enforcement Forces, should be vigilant in looking after your organization. Be careful that the enemy does not infiltrate this organization. Do not allow the past culture, which had no respect for religion, principles, or beliefs, to infiltrate. You must be very vigilant. The people, in turn, should respect these forces and carry out their orders. [passage omitted]

There is a term [harf] that is widespread in the world today that in our opinion is a correct one. Unfortunately, like many correct terms, it is uttered by deceitful people. As a result the people lose their trust. The term is: the fight against terrorism. The fight against terrorism is a proper term currently popular in the world.

What is the meaning of terrorism? Terrorism means the wish of a group, organization, or government to advance its aims by resorting to terrorism, fear, murder, and insecurity. This is the meaning of terrorism. The deed perpetrated by the evil Monafeqin [hypocrites—refers to Mojahedin-e Khalq, MKO] in the holy shrine of Imam Reza, peace be upon him, was a manifestation of terrorism in its ugliest form. They sat down, put their heads together, and after some analyses and calculations came to the conclusion that they should drag the Islamic Republic and the Iranian nation into a crisis. This is the conclusion they reached among themselves. Pathetic creatures. They thought they could drag us into a crisis.

The crisis would be created within the country, in various places, by planting explosives and carrying out terroristic activities. By this means, they thought they could cause alarm among the people and panic within the system; also, if possible, they would create ethnic and tribal discord and similar problems. This was their analysis. Well, it became their objective. The method was to go and plant a bomb at the shrine of Imam Reza, may peace be upon him and his family. To violate the sanctity of the nation's most sacred places in Iran. To cut to pieces the most innocent and pure people who were engaged in performing their prayers and were guests of 'Ali, son of Musa, on 'Ashura day. God's curse be upon those black hearts. These terrorists, for a foolish, hypothetical, and visionary goal, resort to such shameful and ugly action and killing. They wanted to carry out similar attacks at the shrines of Her Holiness Ma'sumeh and the imam [Khomeyni], may God be satisfied with his deeds. Thank God, a disaster was prevented. This terrorism, this is the most ugly action that could be carried out by a group. For their own sake and for their own purposes, to eliminate a number of human beings, any human beings, of either sex, wherever they might be, without any particular animosity, without any crime.

We have terrorist governments. Their duty is state terrorism. An example of this—the most obvious example of all—is the tyrant Zionist regime. Since the dirty hands of Britain and Britain's anti-Islamic, and anti-popular, and anti-eastern policy brought the Zionists to power in the Islamic land of Palestine in 1948—and before that day—the Zionists have resorted to terrorism. They sought to attain their goals by terrorism. [passage omitted]

Since its formation, the usurping regime of Israel has, for nearly half a century, since this cancerous tumor was formed within the Islamic body, always sought to achieve its goals through terrorism. It is the complete manifestation of state terrorism. You heard recently that they dispatched commandos, helicopters, and arms during the night to Lebanon. They surrounded a village. They took a man from his home at night and put him in prison. This is terrorism. Can terrorism be any clearer than this? State terrorism.

Now the masters, the heads of the industrial countries, the seven industrial countries, sat and wagged beards

and talked about terrorism. So, what is terrorism, sir? Do you have any justice? Do you have the slightest consideration for world public opinion? Do you give any credit to human beings for having brains and the ability to discriminate? You who claim to be the defenders of human rights to such an extent. What is terrorism? Which state is the terrorist state in the world?

Who attacks Lebanon every day? Who kills people? Who kidnaps people? Who are the people whose government was, from the start, based on terrorism—the spreading of terror, killings, and massacres? Who could it be except the Government of Israel?

Are you looking for terrorists? Are you looking for state terrorism? Well, you have one there—Israel. Why are you silent? Why do you support them? Why do you lie? That is the affliction from which the world is suffering. Look, in fact, there are two afflictions: one is terrorism, the supreme manifestation of which from the state point of view is the usurper government of the Zionists, and from the party or group point of view is the Monafeqin and their like, who have grown under the wings of those big powers like germs that grow and multiply in a suitable environment such as a garbage pail.

The second affliction, which is perhaps even worse than the first, is the infringement of justice and the truth by those who claim to be the leaders of human affairs. They see acts of terror. They know who the terrorist is. They can recognize state terrorism. However, they draw a curtain over the truth. They deny the truth. This is truly a great affliction for humanity.

The person who resorts to terrorism is devoid of logic. They do not need to bother themselves with accusing the Islamic Republic of such things. That is ridiculous and totally unfounded. Does the Islamic Republic need to resort to terrorism? You yourselves say that the slogans of the Islamic revolution have created upheaval in Egypt, Algeria, and so on and so forth. But we are not in those places; only our words are there, our thoughts are there.

You yourselves say that Iran's Islamic ideas are considered to be a great threat in the world to Western capitalism and to Western powers. Are those not your own words? Very well, our ideas travel everywhere. Our thoughts penetrate and disturb hearts. Western governments do not allow our thoughts to be publicized in their countries because they are afraid. Do they think we need terrorism when we have such a sharp weapon?

I may have told you this: during the lifetime of the imam, may he be admitted to paradise, when the hajj message of the imam was released, people around him tried to get that message published in one of the American Government's [as heard] high circulation newspapers. We were following the story from here. We approved of the idea and said that it should be done. They went to America's well-known papers. They said: We will give you as much money as you like if you publish this message. Not one of them was prepared to publish it because they were afraid. They were afraid.

Everything is published there; even the views of their opponents—their political opponents and their ideological opponents. They do everything for money. They do everything for the dollar. They do not care how they make their money, but, in this case, it was a different and very serious matter. Are they prepared to put part of the television time of one of those big countries at the disposal of revolutionary Islamic ideas? They would not accept at any price. Why? Because they know that if these ideas are raised and presented, and if they reach the people's hearts—the general public have no prejudices, what do the American people have against us, what enmity do the people of Europe have against us—if something sensible is said, they are prepared to listen.

The governments know that if those ideas reach the people, they will find the ideas convincing and believe in them. They will, at the very least, create a disturbance in the expensive propaganda that the Western governments and Zionist machinery carry out today. How much money do they spend to portray Islam and the Islamic revolution and the Islamic Republic as evil? If our ideas are disseminated, all this will change. That is the strength of our ideas. That is the strength of our logic. That is the strength of our words.

In the United Nations, in international conferences—there was a time when I used to attend in my official capacity and now too, God be praised, when our wise and precious president takes part in such international gatherings—whenever we express our views and beliefs, everyone who listens to us approves of what we say in their hearts and many even utter their approval. That is the nature of our ideas. Do we need to resort to terrorism? Terrorism is needed by the one who has no ideas. Terrorism is needed by that shameless hypocrite who has no place within the Iranian nation. The Iranian nation curses the Monafeqin with all its heart.

And the more they behave this way, the more the hatred of the people of Iran will be toward them. They need terror. Such wretched creatures have no choice but to satiate themselves through terror. The Zionists have really nothing to say to the world, so they are obliged to act through terror.

There are some others—I do not want to name names, but there are certain governments who, unfortunately, resort to terrorism.

Islamic Iran has no need for such things. An incident has occurred in a corner of the world and the Zionists immediately open their filthy mouths and name the Islamic Republic. What right have you evil beings to judge the Islamic Republic? The Islamic Republic is good and clean, it relies on a pious, proud, and noble nation which has roots. What are you? You are a government without origin or parentage—a forged government and a false nation. They gathered wicked people from all over the world and made something called the Israeli nation. Is that a nation? All the malevolent and evil Jews have gathered there.

There are Jews living in various countries, as there are in our country. They do not bother anybody and no one bothers them. It is their country and they live in it. Those who went to Israel were malevolent, evil, greedy thieves and murderers. They gathered from all over the world.

Does that constitute a nation? That nation and that government that has been created like that and has called itself Israel has no other way but terror; it has nothing to say. And those creatures with so much baseness and malevolence try to accuse a shining, proud and dear government and nation like Iran. They are the most guilty and disgraced. [passage omitted]

Islamic Trade Fair Seen as Step to Common Market

NC1607082894 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT*
16 Jul 94

[Commentary by the News Research and Commentaries Group]

[Text] The fifth Islamic Trade Fair with the slogan of fraternity, unity, and trade is to open in Tehran this morning and Islamic countries from Asia and Africa as well as Iranian state and private production units will display and offer their goods.

In the world today, countries of the North extensively cooperate with each other within the framework of commercial blocs, and NAFTA, the European Union, and the Organization for Western Economic Cooperation are among these blocs.

Meanwhile, countries of the Third World or the South mostly depend on the industrial countries for their needs and imports, while in many cases the developing countries can meet many of each other's needs through economic cooperation. Thus, organizing exhibitions of goods from the Third World is the first step in becoming acquainted with the existing potentials in these countries.

Also, those Islamic countries that have many of the world's richest natural resources and enjoy advanced production and industrial potentials can take an effective step in expanding South-South commercial relations through cooperation and the expansion of mutual trade relations and can also help to strengthen solidarity among Islamic countries.

For years, the Islamic Republic of Iran has stressed the need for the formation of a strong trade bloc among Islamic countries so that the world's Islamic society can ensure the interests of the Muslims under the aegis of unity and fraternity. Under the economic conditions of the world today, the formation of an Islamic Common Market can become an effective element in bolstering the economic solidarity of Islamic countries and a step toward decreasing dependence and the South's need for the North; and the organizing of the Islamic Trade Fair

and some regional economic pacts such as ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization] can be considered a preliminary step toward this end.

Many of the products that Islamic countries are buying from the West today are available with better terms and quality in Islamic societies. Thus, precise knowledge of the products manufactured by Islamic countries is the first step toward the expansion of economic relations among the Muslims.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Opens Fair

LD1607103594 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT*
16 Jul 94

[Text] The fifth Islamic Trade Fair, with 30 of the world Islamic states participating, was opened this morning by President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

[Begin unidentified correspondent recording] During the opening of the fair, the president, stressing the importance of establishing extraterritorial relations among Muslim states in the world, said: A recognition of the capabilities of the Islamic states and the securing of the wide requirements of Muslims through the use of the huge raw resources and the rich human talents are some of the most important achievements of such fairs.

The president added: If the Islamic states of the world, which number more than 50, cooperate with each other in the exchange of information, experiences and resources will definitely turn into a very powerful force, and they will be able to utilize that power for attaining their common objectives.

Criticizing the method of trade currently prevalent among Islamic states and the interference of the developed states in this respect, Hashemi-Rafsanjani pointed out: The Islamic states must properly utilize their tremendous resources, efficient manpower, and their advanced technology through setting up fairs, better communications, and establishing closer cooperation. We hope the Islamic Conference Organization will be more cooperative and will invest more in this regard. The president said: Alongside fairs and technical and economic cooperation, it has become possible to pay attention to cultural and religious issues to strengthen Islamic unity and solidarity. That also helps in eliminating the misunderstandings and disputes in relations among Islamic states as well as creating unanimity.

Referring to the priority given to establishing as well as expanding Iran's ties with Islamic states in the constitution of our country, Hashemi-Rafsanjani said: We are always committed to proper cooperation with Islamic states, and have made a principle of investment for the purpose of expanding ties with those states.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani also visited various pavilions belonging to domestic production firms and 19 Muslim states. [end recording]

Fair Ends

NC2107062694 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT*
21 Jul 94

[Text] A ceremony in Tehran last night marked the end of the fifth Islamic Trade Fair. Our correspondent reports that during the ceremony, which was attended by the Majles speaker, a representative from the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], and the officials in charge of the participating countries' pavilions, the Majles speaker delivered a speech. He said the objective behind fairs like the Islamic Trade Fair is to inform the Islamic countries of each other's needs and production and export capabilities, to help them furnish their needs from each other, and to establish further contacts among them.

Nateq-Nuri pointed out that the end of the fifth Islamic Trade Fair should not mark the end of efforts to expand economic and commercial relations among these countries. Stating that the Islamic countries should follow up the topics discussed at the seminars organized within the framework of the fair to overcome trade obstacles, he added that they should also introduce preferential tariffs and move toward an Islamic common market.

'Ali Sa'idlu, deputy minister of commerce and the head of the Export Promotion Center, also spoke at the ceremony and said that the ICO members should be encouraged to accelerate the approval of an agreement on preferential tariffs, to remove non-tariff obstacles, to simplify customs formalities, to facilitate visits by entrepreneurs, to expand trade information banks, and to insure commercial transactions as the preliminary steps needed to expand trade and form an Islamic common market. He also expressed the hope that the ICO will achieve this goal.

During the ceremony the Majles speaker handed out commemorative plaques to the representatives of the participating countries.

Albanian Deputy Trade Minister Confers With Va'ez

NC1907114594 *Tehran IRNA in English 1045 GMT*
19 Jul 94

[Text] Tehran, July 19. IRNA—Visiting Albanian deputy minister of foreign trade, Raghpbishechott [name as received], stressed cooperation among Muslim countries in order to ease tension in the region and restore peace in Bosnia.

He made the remark in a meeting with the Iranian deputy foreign minister for Euro-American affairs, Mahmud Va'ez, here Monday [19 July].

He lauded Iran's efforts for organizing the fifth Islamic trade fair and further thanked Tehran for setting up an exclusive exhibition in Tirana.

Shechott is here to attend the Islamic trade fair and hold talks with Iranian officials on bilateral and international issues.

Oil, Industry Ministers Hold Talks in Turkmenistan

Industry Minister Calls Trip 'Very Good'

LD1607173094 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 94

[Text] On the basis of an agreed memorandum of understanding, the Islamic Republic of Iran is to participate in the reconstruction of Turkmenistan's industrial plants. In an interview with the Central News Unit on his return from a visit to Turkmenistan, Industries Minister Mohammad Reza Ne'matzadeh described the outcome of his trip as very good.

He said that on the basis of the memorandum of understanding, the Islamic Republic of Iran will participate in the reconstruction of Turkmenistan's cement plants through the construction of plants for the production of building material, such as bricks, tiles, and (?hygienic) porcelain.

He noted that the groundwork has been laid for the import of 15,000 tonnes of cotton from Turkmenistan, and that the cotton would be arriving in Iran in the near future. He added that one of the important issues discussed was the question of banking between the two countries. It was agreed after negotiations that a special account would be opened to allow importers and exporters to open credit.

The industries minister added: In order to resolve the problem of foreign currency transfers from Turkmenistan, it was agreed that the branch of Iran's Saderat Export Bank in Turkmenistan will handle the business of foreign exchange transfers.

In conclusion, Mr. Ne'matzadeh said: One of the agreements reached relates to the reconstruction of pharmaceutical plants in Turkmenistan, which will be carried out by our country's experts.

Oil Minister Views Transit of Gas

LD1907184994 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] The task of finding a route for and carrying out technical studies on a pipeline to transfer Turkmenistan's gas to Europe via the Islamic Republic of Iran has been completed and the relevant documents were presented to the Turkmen president by the Iranian oil minister in Ashgabat yesterday.

Announcing the news on his return to Tehran, Gholam Reza Aqazadeh-Kho'i said to our correspondent: The

documents are to be studied by Turkmenistan for two weeks and a delegation is to be sent from Turkmenistan to Iran to finalize matters.

He added: The session of the ministerial committee on the Turkmen gas pipeline will be held in the presence of the presidents of the two countries and attended by the oil and gas ministers of Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Russia, and Iran next month. Final agreement on the pipeline is expected to be reached in the presence of the presidents of the two countries and the implementation of the project to start.

Commentary Views Oil Minister's Visit

LD1907120194 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0956 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In the name of God, greetings. Today's first political commentary is about our oil minister's visit to Turkmenistan.

Mr. Gholam Reza Aqazadeh, the oil minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who has gone to Ashgabat in order to follow up talks about bilateral oil and gas cooperation with Turkmenistan, met and conferred with Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov yesterday.

Our oil minister is being accompanied by a number of experts on his visit. Although the details of the issues being discussed in Ashgabat have not been released, it can be said that the talks will center on ways of expanding relations and cooperation in oil and gas affairs, on which the two countries signed agreements of principle some time ago. Of particular importance in this connection is the project for a pipeline taking gas from Turkmenistan to Europe via Iran. On the basis of this project, the Islamic Republic of Iran will transfer 31 billion cubic meters of gas to Europe per year by allowing the transit of Turkmenistan's natural gas through the northern part of Iranian territory. The total duration of this two-stage agreement will be 25 years.

Although many powers opposed to the expansion of relations and cooperation among Islamic countries are trying hard to prevent the implementation of projects of this kind and to lay their hands on the resources of Central Asian countries, it seems as if interest in bilateral cooperation is increasing by the day. This is especially the case in view of the fact that the economic ties between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Central Asian countries such as Turkmenistan are supported by a strong and deep-rooted tradition of cultural, religious, and historical bonds.

A clear example of the growing trend of cooperation between Iran and Turkmenistan can be seen in President Niyazov's recent visit to the Iranian province of Khorasan. During that visit, the presidents of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Turkmenistan examined a wide

range of areas of possible cooperation in transport, customs, banking, trade, and the creation of facilities for the transit of goods and for travel by the two countries' nationals.

The point that is of interest, however, is that this growing trend is causing grave anxiety among nonregional powers about the closeness among the Islamic nations of the region and has led to fruitless efforts to block this increasing cooperation.

At any rate, the visit of our oil minister to Turkmenistan can further advance the agreements on oil and gas cooperation. Apart from the longstanding links and friendship between the two nations, which serve as a basis for mutual trust, the point must be borne in mind that, in connection with oil and gas cooperation, the Islamic Republic of Iran's capabilities and skills in the oil and gas industries and its excellent geopolitical position for the implementation of projects relating to the transfer of Turkmenistan's gas to Europe are two major advantageous features which can lend a new dimension to future regional cooperation. This is especially true since these features allow the fulfilment of the interests of both Iran and Turkmenistan and of the European consumers of Turkmenistan's oil and gas.

Cooperation Agreement Signed With Syria

LD2007171894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] At the end of the second round of talks today between the ministers of culture and higher education of Syria and Iran, a memorandum of understanding in nine articles was signed by the ministers in order to broaden the field of cooperation between the two countries in education, science, and research.

This memorandum of understanding was signed in order to strengthen friendly ties and expand cooperation in education and scientific research between the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria.

The memorandum stipulates that the two sides should emphasize the importance of developing each other's language and literature, and provide necessary facilities for improvement in teaching of Arabic and Persian by universities in both countries.

Economic Understanding Signed With Guinea

LD2007172894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] During the second Iranian-Guinean joint meeting this evening, a memorandum of understanding was signed by Minister of Mines Mahluji and Dakoum Sako, minister of natural resources, energy, and environment.

According to the memorandum, the two sides have agreed on: cooperation in the industrial field; the

transfer of pipe production technology and auto spare parts to Guinea; the setting up of technical and advisory offices in required sectors in cooperation with the Guinean sides; the complete implementation of required industrial plans; the transfer of heavy vehicles as well as tractors, cars, motorcycles and their relevant spare parts to Guinea; and the teaching of investment and accountancy methods to Guinean trainees in Iran.

According to the report, the memorandum of understanding stresses the need for the reopening of the Conakry railway network, and agreement has been reached on dispatching a team of Iranian experts to carry out technical and economic studies in Guinea.

Romanian Speaker, Velayati Discuss Relations

NC1707085894 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0330 GMT 17 Jul 94

[Text] The speaker of the Romanian Assembly of Deputies, who is in Tehran, met with the foreign minister yesterday and called for bilateral cooperation on important international and regional problems. At the meeting, where bilateral relations and important regional and international issues—namely, the situation in the Balkans—were examined, Adrian Nastase said that the two countries' relations in all fields are extremely good. Referring to the two countries' economic potentials, he said that the bases for boosting trade between Tehran and Bucharest are favorable.

The Romanian speaker referred to the importance of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Persian Gulf and of Romania in Central Europe and the Balkans, saying that it is valuable for the two countries to exchange views on important regional and international problems.

During the meeting Velayati underlined the significance of exchanging views and of bilateral cooperation on regional and international problems. The foreign minister referred to the latest developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina and said: The Islamic Republic of Iran strongly supports the just struggles of the Bosnian people against the aggressors. Velayati said: The Bosnian Government's patient and generous approach to the peace process and to international mediation shows that country's justness.

Meets With Nateq-Nuri on Expanding Ties

LD1607165894 Tehran IRIB Television Second Program Network in Persian 1600 GMT 16 Jul 94

[Text] Adrian Nastase, speaker of the Romanian Assembly of Deputies, who is visiting Tehran, met with Majles Speaker 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri today. Stressing the need for the expansion of parliamentary ties between the two countries, he expressed the wish to cooperate with the Islamic Republic of Iran as a regional power. He described the search for a peaceful solution to the Balkan crisis as one of Romania's principled policies, and he

declared Romania's willingness to expend more effort to ending the fighting and bloodshed in former Yugoslavia.

Mr. Nateq-Nuri conveyed the willingness of the Majles to expand ties between the two countries and underlined the Islamic Republic of Iran's principled stance with regard to noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries.

Emami-Kashani Condemns G-7 Statement in Sermon

LD1507101794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 15 Jul 94

[Excerpt] The political and religious Friday prayers were held simultaneously throughout the nation today. In Tehran the prayers were led by Ayatollah Emami-Kashani. In the second sermon of the prayers, the interim Friday imam of Tehran exposed the actions of the world of arrogance and said: World arrogance hides the truth behind a wall of propaganda and tries to corrupt human society. Ayatollah Emami-Kashani described the message and aim of the Islamic revolution as shunning and declaring hatred for crime and oppression and as supporting the oppressed. He said: This desirable and admirable message of the revolution continues to evoke the wrath of arrogance. He condemned the statement of the leaders of the seven industrial states which called on Iran to stop its opposition to Israel, despite the efforts of arrogant countries which through support, money, and equipment train terrorist forces to act against the Islamic Republic of Iran and tarnish the image of the Islamic system of Iran. He said: This popular system continues to speak its righteous words steadfastly. The righteous-seeking people support the system. These plots cannot harm the system in any way. Ayatollah Emami-Kashani spoke of the unsuccessful plot of the monafeqin [hypocrites—reference to Mojahedin-e Khalq, MKO] agent group which aimed to create religious differences between the different strata of the Iranian people, saying: God has supported, and continues to support, the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He announced the Islamic Republic of Iran's support for security in the region, saying: We again announce with strong logic that we back security and justice. [passage omitted]

Remarks by U.S. Ambassador to Kuwait Faulted

NC0307170094 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 28 Jun 94 pp 1, 2

[Editorial: "Repetitive Remarks by a Newly Designated Ambassador!"]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Usually, newly appointed people try to attract attention by their effusive verbosity to assert their presence. The novice U.S. ambassador is no exception to this rule.

At his first news conference, Ryan Crocker, the newly appointed U.S. ambassador to Kuwait, aimed at attracting attention in a diffusive and ostentatious display, but he overlooked one point. Even though what he said may have been a novelty for a new ambassador, it was actually quite dated. These are the repetitive and nauseating remarks that all American officials have uttered as if they have learned them by rote, and the more intelligent ones have merely added some of their own distinctive remarks while repeating the same things.

It is amazing that these repetitive remarks still have a newness for some Arab publications, which print them verbatim. Who knows, this might also be an advertisement that is being published in some of the publications of the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia at the expense of the American Embassy in Kuwait.

The new U.S. ambassador in Kuwait has claimed: "The danger from Iran stems from its seeking access to weapons of mass destruction and its dispute with the UAE on three islands, and these are a part of Iran's expansionist actions. Iran and Iraq are the two bases for the disruption of the security and stability of the Persian Gulf. This point necessitates greater cooperation among the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] member countries. It is essential that they should embark on forging a strong, joint deterrent defense to combat all kinds of possible aggression. Iraq, by disregarding and violating the Security Council decisions and Iran, as a source of danger in the Persian Gulf, will remain threats in the Persian Gulf. In my meeting with Kuwaiti officials, I will elaborate on the U.S. concern over Iran's moves and will elicit Kuwait's opinion in this regard."

Perhaps Crocker personally feels that he has made some profound observations. However, if he were to peruse the archives of the remarks by all the U.S. echelons in this regard, he would certainly feel embarrassed. He would realize that he has merely been chewing the same cud and ruminating on repetitive remarks by others.

Despite this, we should not imagine that the newly appointed ambassador in Kuwait is an ignorant person. He believes that he has been given an assignment and is pursuing certain objectives. It is for this reason that we should further ponder this point: that is, what is his assignment and to what purposes has he been posted in Kuwait? Ostensibly, all this becomes more meaningful when viewed within the framework of Washington's new plan for defining the future strategy of the GCC, which has been published verbatim in the UAE publications, and when one notes that Crocker, who is the implementer of these instructions, is himself in Kuwait.

The fact is that at present, Washington is seeking to justify its unlawful presence in the region by means of troublemongering and propagandistic blackmail. At the same time, it will also pave the way for the attainment of its current and future objectives in the GCC member countries.

It is precisely for this reason that Washington has embarked on paranoid propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran in the littoral shaykhdoms in the southern Persian Gulf. It is optimistic that by generating such fear and intimidation in the courts of the region, it will create conditions conducive to the increased sale of arms to these countries. The constant refrain on the part of the United States, that the Persian Gulf is allegedly unsafe and, so to speak, every moment it is in danger of a possible aggression, is repeated to instill fear and apprehension in the regional courts. This is intended to motivate them to purchase more weapons and transform the region into a U.S. military arsenal.

In the past two decades, the United States has reaped immense capital from this same policy in the region. By actually "causing war" in one instance and at another time "frightening the Arabs with the threat of war," it has created conditions to market its weapons to the regional shaykhs. All are aware that Washington was, and is, the main instigator of crises in the region. Not only did the savage aggression by Saddam Husayn take place at the U.S. behest, the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait was also initiated on a green light given by the U.S. ambassador in Baghdad.

In other words, the Persian Gulf region has in the past two decades constantly witnessed the fanning of war flames and the perpetration of atrocities by the United States and Washington's overt interference in the region for the purpose of generating crises. This could be seen in the form of support for the "executioner of Baghdad" at one time which resulted in an 8-year-long war being imposed on Islamic Iran.

At other times it takes the form of terrorist crimes by the Monafeqin [hypocrites—refers to Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, MKO] in which the Monafeqin martyred the people in the streets, and then, in a premeditated crime, martyred the elite forces of the revolution who were the succorers of the people, that is, the 72 close associates of the imam who were martyred on 28 June, thus depriving the nation of their presence. Our nation wrote all these events in the U.S. ledger and will continue to do so.

Our nation has not forgotten that the criminal United States directed the war of tankers and the missile attack by the S.S. Vincennes on the Iranian passenger plane, and it has not forgotten how many other crimes it has perpetrated in the course of the imposed war when it placed information about the sensitive parts of the country at the disposal of the "Baghdad executioner."

The United States then gave the green light to Saddam for aggression against Kuwait. Then, with the suppression of the Baghdad executioner, it disbanded Iraq's excess military baggage. Even if the regional shaykhs do not admit it, they know full well that in both these games by the United States in the region, they were the real losers who have been plundered by the United States.

The clear meaning that emerges from this article is that the main objective of all Washington's schemes is to pillage the wealth of the Arabs and oil Croesuses of the region. Even the European countries have objected to the wave of plunder against Kuwait's wealth. In order to reap their just shares from this looting of Kuwait's resources, they have openly threatened to close their embassies.

Crocker, the novice U.S. ambassador, perhaps does not yet know that the situation in the region is not what he thought or thinks it is. Prior to making what he thinks are new remarks, he should have studied the archives of the statements by his predecessors. Such repetition of others' remarks will not unravel the knots of the increasing problems of the United States in the region.

Israeli Allegations on Argentina Bombing Rejected

LD2007201694 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran in English 1930 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A spokesman for the Islamic Republic of Iran's Foreign Ministry, while refuting the Zionist regime prime minister and health minister's claims, has denied any involvement of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the explosion that occurred at the Jewish center in Argentina.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman described the said blast as similar to the one at a Christian church in Beirut which was caused by the Israeli intelligence organization, Mosad, and the Israeli agents in Lebanon.

Following the massive explosion that destroyed the Jewish center in Buenos Aires, the capital of Argentina, on Monday July 18, the Zionist regime officials and the regime's media in occupied Palestine launched a wide-scale effort for creating a new wave of propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to dispatches, the Zionist regime prime minister, Yitzhaq Rabin, has announced that Iran and the Islamic fundamentalist groups, such as the Lebanese Hizballah, are involved in the attack on the Jewish center in Argentina that has close ties with Tel Aviv.

In response to these unfounded accusations, Mr. Mahmud Mohammadi, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry, while underlining the point that the Islamic Republic of Iran has itself been a major victim of terrorism, reminded the fact that Iran condemns the act of resorting to terrorism. But in this particular case Iran believes that keeping the outcome of investigation about the 1992 blast at the Israeli Embassy in Argentina ambiguous has led the Zionist regime to indulge in the most inhuman acts such as causing the blast at the Christian church in Beirut and carrying out the massacre

of Muslims at the al-Khalil [Hebron] mosque and level baseless accusations on others in order to secure its illegitimate objectives.

The real reason behind the explosion is not yet clear, but according to experts, the planned and suspicious move, being witnessed following the blast, and through the remarks of the Zionist regime officials and the propaganda mouthpieces of the world imperialism and international Zionism, is worth pondering along with the continued efforts of the West to tarnish the Islamic revolution. These efforts began from the Naples summit of the Group of Seven industrialized countries, continued with the baseless allegations levelled against certain Iranian diplomats in Caracas by the Venezuelan Government, and apparently are seeking a climax in the Argentine capital.

Whatever the outcome of these efforts and the unending conspiracies, there can be no doubt about one point. That is, despite these acts, the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to remain a center of support for the most vocal and firm opposition to plans for dragging the Muslim nations of the region toward compromise.

Such non-compromising is not a temporary tactic. Rather, it is a strategic principle on the basis of which the charter of the Islamic revolution has been prepared.

Radio Links Israeli Raids to Christopher Visit

NC2107074194 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0345 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Commentary by the News Research and Commentaries Group]

[Text] News agencies reported yesterday that many residents of villages near the contact lines next to the occupied area in south Lebanon have left their homes and headed for Beirut and other residential areas of Lebanon fearing Zionist attacks. Commenting on the reason for this move, a resident of Qalqilyah near the Zionist regime's so-called security zone said that villagers in the south believe the current visit by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher is coupled with the tension-creating acts of the Zionist regime, hence the fear in the south and the flight to safer areas.

The southerners' predictions of the Zionist regime's behavior came true last night when residential areas and villages around the occupied border zone were shelled hard by tanks and artillery while Zionist planes bombed towns and villages in al-Biq'a.

Although the Zionist regime carries out land and air raids on residential areas in Lebanon every so often, it is significant that these crimes by the Zionist regime are linked with the U.S. secretary of state's visits, such that the Lebanese people believe Christopher's visits to the

region are harmful to them and they note that they lost most of their belongings and properties during past visits by the U.S. secretary.

This has been the biggest outcome of the so-called American peace efforts for the Middle East people, efforts that have actually stabilized the terrorist and aggressive Zionist regime and that cause endless tragedies for the region.

In tandem with the land and air raids on various parts of Lebanon, Warren Christopher is striving to make Arab governments kneel in front of the Zionist aggressors, without thinking about the dire consequences of the Zionist regime's acts that are not consistent with the compromise efforts. Apparently Washington's diplomatic machinery has replaced the theory of reconciliation between the Arab regimes and the Zionist regime with the theory of reconciliation between the Arab and Israeli peoples. But after 15 years of efforts, did the reconciliation between the Egyptian and Zionist regimes lead to a reconciliation between the people of Egypt and the Zionists to give rise to hopes that the region will move toward peace and reconciliation under the aegis of agreements between other Arab regimes and the occupiers?

What is gleaned from America's general behavior is that despite false allegations, the only issue that has been cast into oblivion in Washington's diplomacy is the issue of human rights and democracy, especially when it comes to Muslim nations. In an era in which the nation's alertness has increased such that its role and determination in the current fundamental developments in the world cannot be ignored, how can Washington's efforts to crush this determination be expected to score even the smallest success?

Voice of Israel Criticized for 'Blunder'

LD1407164594 Tehran IRNA in English 1506 GMT 14 Jul 94

[Text] Tehran, July 14, IRNA—Radio Israel claimed in its news broadcast on Tuesday that Iranian security officials' statements on Pastor Mikailian's murder contradicted those published in the press.

It said the Tehran-based daily "JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI" had published an interview with a Tehrani citizen who had said that the body of Pastor Tatabous Mikailian had been hidden inside a freezer, while Iranian security officials maintained that it was found in a recreational park west of Tehran.

The body of Mikailian was discovered inside a freezer at Nezamabad district, while that of Pastor Mehdi Dibaj at a recreational park west of here. The reports concerning the incidents were published for the first time last Thursday both in Tehran-based morning and evening dailies based on assertions by the murderer of Pastor Mikailian and a security official at the Information Ministry.

An expert at IRNA monitoring department who closely follows Radio Israel's reports says that Radio Israel's haste in launching anti-Iranian propaganda has made it commit such a "ridiculous" blunder.

He further said that it was also likely that Radio Israel had deliberately mixed up the matter due to its false mentality about its possible audience.

The expert added that Radio Israel thought its likely listeners were so unaware of the realities that they would not find out about the difference between the two incidents.

Whereas, he added, even those who listen to Radio Israel's reports out of curiosity would not hesitate to read newspapers as well in order to be informed about the realities.

Abducted Diplomats Reportedly Still Alive

NC1807090994 *Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0230 GMT 18 Jul 94*

[Text] Senior Lebanese Government officials announced that four abducted Iranian diplomats are alive and incarcerated in Zionist prisons. This was reported by the families of the four Iranian diplomats on their return to Tehran from Lebanon last night. They called on international associations—including the United Nations, the Red Cross, and the Association for the Defense of Human Rights—to take serious steps to release their loved ones from the Zionist regime's prisons.

Mrs. Musavi, wife of the abducted Iranian charge d'affaires in Lebanon, told our correspondent: Lebanese officials assured me that, according to a confession by Samir Ja'ja', leader of the Phalangist forces in Lebanon, the four Iranian diplomats abducted in 1987 were transferred to Israel by sea and are presently in the clutches of the Zionist regime.

She added: During this trip, the families of the abducted Iranian diplomats met with the prime minister, the foreign minister, the interior minister, the justice minister, and other high-level officials in Lebanon. It was decided that a committee including the Lebanese foreign, interior, and justice ministers would be set up and that the case of the abducted Iranians would be pursued.

Release of German 'Spy' Said Not 'Capitulation'

NC2107085094 *Tehran SALAM in Persian 12 Jul 94 p 3*

[From the "Hello SALAM!" readers' questions column]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] [Question] In my opinion, the economic officials of the country are responsible for the release of the German spy. They were the ones who made the country so indebted to foreigners that in order to extricate the country from these straits they had to do this.

[SALAM] That would only be considered correct if the release of Szimkus were due to Iran's debts, but no one has made such a statement. The other point is that delay in repayment of Iran's debts to Germany or any other country is not to their detriment but rather ensures their benefit. This is because first, they gain more interest and second, this opens the way for still more imports, which is once again to their benefit. Therefore, the issue of delaying Iran's debts to Germany is not something which needs such expedient measures.

[Question] Is capitulation [preceding word in English] still present in Iran? If not, then why is it that a German who spied for the Iraqi regime, which resulted in the shedding of the blood of Iranian women and children, has been released?

[SALAM] Earlier we clarified that this issue is different from the issue of capitulation. The former meant that foreign citizens were not prosecuted in Iran and had to return to their countries for interrogation and trial. In other words, the country's judicial authorities do not have the right to impeach and sentence them. Capitulation conflicts with the sovereign rights of a country. However, the German spy was tried and sentenced in Iran and his release was on the supposition that we could gain some concessions at least similar to those we have been given.

[Question] If an Iranian were arrested in Germany on charges of espionage, would they release him so easily?

[SALAM] It depends on the level of our seriousness in defending our country's citizens abroad. [passage omitted]

British Terrorism Policy Seen Contradictory

NC1707162494 *Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 11 Jul 94 p 15*

[Unattributed commentary: "Britain: Contradiction in Word and Deed"]

[Excerpts] The British charge d'affaires in Tehran met the secretary general of the Islamic Majles' human rights committee and member of the Majles' Foreign Relations Committee and said: "The British Government condemns the terrorist actions of the Monafeqin [hypocrites—refers to Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] in Mashhad." He elaborated: "The past record of this group's terrorist actions is well-known to Britain and, therefore, the British Government does not extend any support to this group."

Even though the action by the British charge d'affaires can be considered a positive one, it does not bear the slightest resemblance to the actions of his government in the past few years in supporting the terrorist subgroup of the Monafeqin. Britain is actually a supporter of the Monafeqin and is considered their main political base in Europe. Britain has been the center for a political and cultural onslaught against Islam in general and against

the Islamic Republic of Iran in particular and this is a reality that does not require any confirmation or reasoning.

Whenever the British charge d'affaires in Tehran feels that his government needs to expand its relations with Iran, he utters positive and expedient remarks. However, these remarks are neither endorsed by his government's high-level officials nor is any guarantee or practical commitment for implementing them forthcoming. As a result, if we were to compare the words and deeds of individuals, and their actions are judged on this criterion, we can frankly state that despite the remarks of the British charge d'affaires, London's relations with Tehran are hostile and Britain's support of the Monafeqin continues consistently. [passage omitted]

The utterances of the British charge d'affaires are positive but can only be considered to be of worth when they match the performance of his government.

'Part 1' of Confessions by Three MKO Members

LD1807190994 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1741 GMT 17 Jul 94

["Part One" of "confessions" of three members of Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, MKO; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Dear viewers and compatriots, as you know during the past several weeks the mini-group of Monafeqin [hypocrites—refers to MKO], in a series of indiscriminate moves of planting bombs in holy places, have resorted to acts of terrorism to create division among the Shi'a and Sunni brothers and also between Muslims and Christians, and have killed a large number of our dear compatriots. Three members of this mini-group, after being arrested, confessed to their deeds during an interview. While offering my congratulations on the occasion of the law-enforcement forces week, I invite you to listen to the confessions made by three members of the hypocrites' mini-group. [video shows three women in full Islamic attire sitting behind a table and talking to the camera].

[Shahbazpur] In the name of God, my name is Maryam Shahbazpur, alias Maryam Puraslani. I am a member of the hypocrites organization. I was arrested in connection with the planting of the bomb in the holy shrine of Ma'sumah.

[Vaferi] In the name of God, my name is Batul Vaferi, alias Ashraf Ne'matpur. I was arrested in connection with the bomb planting in the shrine of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni.

[Amani] My name is Farahnaz Amani, alias Farahnaz Mahrumifar or Zari. I am a member of the hypocrites organization. I was arrested while attempting to flee the country.

[Shahbazpur] My activities in this organization began in the year 1980. I was arrested on 21 June 1981 during armed demonstrations. I was released in 1984. I re-established my contact with this organization via Farahnaz. My reliability was checked by Farahnaz. During February 1994, the organization began to doubt my capabilities and achievements. They kept evaluating me to see whether I was capable of carrying out a mission.

Early in the year 1373 [from 21 March 1994] a person, who was in contact with us on behalf of the organization, came and informed us of the new situation. He told us that circumstances now dictate that the organization do something to create bottlenecks for the regime internally and at the international level. That is, we should create chaos inside the country, create instability, and push the regime into a dead end internationally. For this task, he gave us an analysis of the organization. He prepared us mentally and said: Since you are going to undertake complicated and secret works and also perform engineering works, you should stay away from open demonstrations and harassing operations and enter into secret operations.

The organization assigned some operations to our team so as to reach its objectives. For instance, we were told to go to Esfahan and get to know (Demitrie Belus) and Bishop (Iraj Mottahedeh) in the Church of Luke. For this purpose, the organization instructed us to contact the church by saying: We are disillusioned with Islam and would like to become more familiar with Christianity. This would create closer link between us. Thanks to the instructions of the organization, I was allowed to enter the Church of Luke and participate in their rituals. I attended the prayer rituals.

After a tea ceremony, I asked (Belus) to arrange a meeting for me. I intended to realize the organization's objectives. After arranging the meeting, I went to his house. I was trying to understand his status and find out about his position and behavior. I had to pass my information to the organization. During my meetings with (Belus), I asked him to explain the Christian religion to me in greater detail. The organization previously told me that (Belus) enjoyed international status and prestige. My interest in Christianity was just an excuse to win his trust and to establish links for future operations.

During the next mission, the organization instructed me to go to Esfahan with Batul. The mission was to become more familiar with (Belus) and the bishop and to get to know the city of Esfahan.

About 2 June, I arrived in Esfahan with Batul. We tried to find out about the access routes entering and leaving the city. We also identified the city's important buildings. Afterwards, in order to pretend our interest was genuine, we bought some presents for Mr. and Mrs. (Belus). We then went to their house. This time Mr. (Belus) was not home. We waited for him, but he did not turn up.

Since we realized we were not achieving much, we asked to see the bishop. We left for the bishop's house with (Belus's) wife, but he was not in either. We were trying hard to pretend we wanted to maintain links and were eager to hold more talks with (Belus). For this reason Mrs. (Belus) trusted us and gave us the telephone number of (Iraj Mottahedeh). We prepared a report on these operations and passed it to the organization.

Our team's next mission was identification of Mr. Mikhailian. This task was assigned to Farahnaz, but we also participated in his killing. Our role in the killing was to go into a house, the second floor of which was rented by the organization. They took Mikhailian to the second floor. I stayed downstairs on the first floor with Batul to keep the landlord busy talking to us. When we were downstairs, we heard the sound of a bullet being fired. The landlord, Mr. Esfahani, insisted on going upstairs to see what was happening. He went upstairs and realized what had happened. We threatened him and tied up his arms and legs and pushed him inside the bathroom. We then cleaned the traces of the killing, washed the blood patches with the help of other team members, and put the body inside a freezer that had been prepared for this purpose already. We then took Mikhailian's car and drove to our next team house.

My next mission was to plant a bomb in the shrine of holy Ma'sumah. In order to prevent exposure of our secret mission, the bomb was concealed inside a thick religious book. [video shows the book with the center of inside pages cut out]. We were given the book and left for Qom disguised as pilgrims.

En route to Qom city, we tried to act normal and get there quickly. We travelled by private transport. When I went to Tehran I tried to use a place, to sit in a place to look more normal. Therefore, I sat next to a lady, so no one would pay any attention to me. On the way, I was thinking about the duty entrusted to me by the organization. Mas'ud Rajavi [MKO leader] said this work had to be carried out. I did not want to think about what would happen. I shut my mind to such thinking in order to carry out the work in the best manner.

When I entered Qom city, I went towards Haram [the shrine] and I passed the first check point that was manned by sisters. However, my fear and worries that I might be caught caused suspicion. Therefore, they, the brothers, suspected me and searched me. When they saw the bomb, they arrested me. I tried to make noise and draw the attention of other people in order to disassociate myself with the bomb, but it was in my hand anyway and caused my arrest.

We realized that the bomb given to us would have gone off immediately, although we were told we would have enough time to plant the bomb and then leave the scene. If this organization tells us such a lie and sacrifices us for its own [word indistinct] greeds, then how can they have any consideration for people? [shouts heard: Death to hypocrite.]

[Vaferi] My activities and cooperation with the hypocrites' organization goes back to 1980-1981. I was working in the (?labor) section of the organization under the responsibility of a person called Mehri. During this year and in this labor section of the organization, our work was political-propaganda activity, selling of publications, and distribution of tracts.

In the beginning of year 1360 [1981-1982] when I got married, I ended my work with organization and I did not have any activity. In 1361 [1982-1983] when my first child was born, men from the Justice Ministry came to my house to arrest me. When they saw my condition, they told me they would give me some time and gave me 20 days extension. After 20 days, I reported to the Justice Ministry and answered a number of questions. When the men from the Justice Ministry saw my situation and a child, they said now that you have a child and a life and are married, you can return and continue with your life. However, after six months I was summoned again to answer a series of questions. They too took account of my infant child and the fact that I was married and had a child. They told me: We forgive you. I was included among the pardoned people and I returned to my life.

However, I resumed my contact and activities with the hypocrites organization in the year 1368 [1989-1990]. It followed a visit by me and my family, that is my husband and our two children, to Turkey. There, we contacted the organization. The organization checked and investigated our affairs in Iran. After returning to Iran, we had some links with the organization, but we established a permanent contact in the year 1372 [21 March 1993 to 20 March 1994]. From this date, I maintained a permanent link with the organization.

My task in the country was mostly propaganda work. I did not do anything particular, but during the same period the organization kept checking my capabilities, potential, and motives. As a result, in the year 1373 I was entrusted with a series of missions and operations. In the year 1373 an emissary of the organization contacted us. During his talks he informed us of new analyses, facts, and parameters. At this stage, our task became very complicated, as we entered a phase of carrying out engineering operations. This required a particular degree of capability; we had to alter our lifestyle accordingly. The first alteration was to lead a secret life, to preserve one's energy and to avoid any harassing and propaganda work. We cut off our links, including family relationships, to enable us to devote all our time to the organization. This was supposed to ensure our full success in the operations and tasks assigned to us by the organization.

At this stage, the organization was working over the issue of Christianity. Alongside this policy, the organization assigned some operations to me. One of these operations was the identification of clergymen in Esfahan's Luke Church. I was sent to Esfahan with Maryam to become familiar with a person named (Demitrie Belus), who was

the priest of that church, and the Bishop (Iraj Mottahe-deh). After the completion of our mission in Esfahan, we wrote a report and submitted it to a representative of the organization with maps of the areas and buildings we had visited. We drew the maps ourselves.

I was involved in some other operations. One of them was the work against Priest Mikhailian. I was somehow involved in this operation. It was my job to find a place for performing the operation. On the day of the operation, my job was to cooperate with Maryam to calm down the landlord. We carried out this task and afterwards cooperated with others to hide Mikhailian's corpse in the freezer, which had been prepared for this purpose already. I also helped with cleaning the place and making it tidy. After finishing the job, we collected our belongings and left in Mikhailian's car for our second team house in Shari'ati Avenue.

After those operations, the organization assigned me to carry out some other operations, which consisted of bombings. At this time, they held a session to provide justifications and explanations. They presented certain analyses to us. The organization's analysis was that bombings would create an atmosphere of tension, anxiety, and insecurity, as well as instability, and it was the organization's aim to bring about that kind of atmosphere.

Second, if bombings took place in holy places, such as the Imam Reza, domestic problems would be raised, it would be attributed to domestic problems and, also, the Shi'ite-Sunni problem would be raised—as was suggested in connection with the bombing in the Imam Reza shrine.

The third problem in their analyses was that, by creating this atmosphere of insecurity, tension, and instability, the issue would generate foreign reaction with the result being that foreigners would give greater credibility to the organization; and we would thereby, solve the organization's problems in a general sense.

It was on the basis of this analysis that they said the mission to place a bomb in the Imam Reza shrine was assigned to me. They informed me of my mission and stressed there and then that, behind this issue, was the very person of Rajavi and Maryam Rajavi.

They delivered the bomb to us. It was placed in a woman's handbag, at the bottom of the bag, underneath the lining. It had a trigger or detonator and they told me that when I placed the bomb in a suitable place, I should pull the detonator to activate it.

I took delivery of the bomb on Tuesday and I set out to take the bomb to its destination and to activate it. In order to exercise the greatest care and to perform my mission in the best possible way, I kept checking the situation to see that I was not being followed or the plan had not been exposed. I changed cars several times and travelled the route in several different sections, so my

ultimate aim and destination would not be revealed, so it would not be clear where I was headed and where my ultimate destination was.

I kept changing cars until I reached the Behesht-e Zahra [cemetery in southern Tehran]. However, in my mind throughout the journey was how I should carry out my order and my mission in the way the organization demanded of me. All I could think about was how I would go in once I got there; how I would pass through the inspections; how I should take the bomb inside; how I should become friendly with the people there; how I should get close to the shrine so I could place the bomb there; how I could possibly give the handbag to someone else and then leave on some pretext or other and try to get away from there. I was thinking a great deal about all this.

I got to the shrine. I removed my shoes and hesitated there. I tried to gain an impression of my surroundings as I took off my shoes. I placed my shoes in a plastic bag and did not give it to the custodian, because it was my plan that when I had carried out the operations, I would try to escape as quickly as possible. Therefore, I decided to hold on to my shoes. I looked around me. I passed through the area in which the sisters were taking back their shoes and I moved towards the inspection area. In this area I kept looking around, looking around the shrine. I saw the people, some of whom were praying, some children were playing. When I saw all this, I tried to pull myself together and not allow their presence to affect me and prevent me from carrying out my mission in the best possible way, in the way the organization asked me. I quickly pulled myself together.

I looked around me and I moved towards the shrine, that is, the resting place itself, with the intention of laying the bomb as close to it as possible. At that point, the inspector had a look. The situation looked a bit suspicious, because when you put your hand in the bottom of the handbag, it was quite hard and the bag was heavy, out of proportion to the things which they could see I had placed in it. The inspector carried out his examination, but he did not say anything to me. I took about ten steps and then they suddenly called to me from behind and told me to stop. I stopped and I tried to stir up the situation, to make some noise, and try to extricate myself. I said: There is nothing. I do not have anything, do not bother me, but they seized the handbag from me and decided to see what such a heavy bag contained. At any rate, I was arrested and then taken to the detention center.

Having been arrested and freed of the organization's constraints, the kind of thinking which used to occupy my mind—the pressure of not being allowed to think or to ask questions, but just to be assigned missions and to carry them out in exactly the way that the organization demanded of me—all these constraints have been removed and I find myself in a calmer spirit, away from all those pressures, and I am able to think in the way that

I needed and have reached certain conclusions. I have become more aware of the realities. Things are clearer for me.

What I mean to say is that I was involved in that organization for years. I was active in it; I gave everything to it. I sacrificed children, marriage, father, mother. I did everything it asked of me. However, I realized at the detention center that the bomb they gave me had been set to go off immediately. In other words, the minute I pulled out the detonator, it would blow up and the first person it would have torn to pieces would have been me. I had given everything to the organization and my last operation would be to kill myself. That is the nature of the organization and the name hypocrites is really appropriate for it; it really suits it. Look at what I did for it and what it ultimately planned for me.

I became aware of certain things and arrived at analyses that I can now present in a rational way. Well, the organization's analyses about the bombings were as I told you. What, however, were my own analyses in the face of the realities?

My analysis is that these bombings can be seen as a green light to Zionism and the West in view of the fact that the bombs were placed in religious places and this amounts to a religious war. Another thing is that the organization claims to adhere to certain beliefs. However, we can see now that these beliefs and the question of unity and struggle is nothing but a disguise. In fact, the organization thinks of nothing but fulfilling its wishes and obtaining power. In other words, it is prepared to see anything and anyone sacrificed, to see anyone, regardless of their value, destroyed in order to achieve the organization's aim.

Another aspect of my interpretation of this bombing is that—look, when the organization hit a dead end internally in 1360-61 [1981-83], it pointed its weapons at the people, at the public, and began assassinating them. The general dead end that the organization has reached in Iraq today has had an effect on it and it is trying to solve its problem with bombings. That is my analysis.

What I want to know is: the organization says it is a defender of the people and so on, by what right does it say things like that? It has taken my house away from me. It has deprived me of all my human values. What has it given to me in their place—a series of activities and things, which perhaps other people would have been incapable of, and a great deal of responsibility for these activities so that, with the pride and the ideas it has created within me and placed in my mind, I became incapable of thinking about anything else.

In other words, it has turned [one or more words edited out] Rajavi into an idol, demanding obedience. A member of the organization must show obedience. They call it organizational obedience. A member is not supposed to think of anything else.

That was why, when a mission was assigned to me, I only thought about how I would carry out that mission. I had no time to think about questions of humanity. Today, when I look back, I think to myself: Well, that shrine—shrines have always been safe places; places in which people pray, talk to God, and worship. It was the public that went to such places. What have a six-month-old infant, a sixty-year-old woman, a sixty-year-old man done? Why do they have to be sacrificed for the sake of the organization's greed? The organization's [one or more words edited out] Mas'ud Rajavi—does he not say: The people and so on. What nonsense is that? It is the people who are being destroyed, so what is he talking about when he speaks of the people? Which people? I do not know which people he is speaking about. Are there some new people that we have not told about?

That is why, when I meet people now, when I meet different individuals, I feel nothing but shame. I can only say I am ashamed. That is all.

'Part Two'

LD1807203194

[Editorial Report] Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian at 1722 GMT on 18 July carries the 27-minute second part of its televised confessions by three female members of Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization, MKO. The second part features the third member of the group, Farahnaz Amani, who did not speak in Part One. Also present in the studio is Seyyed Jalal Esfahani, the landlord who unknowingly rented his apartment to the MKO members to be used as a safe house.

To begin the program, each MKO member introduces herself.

Farahnaz Amani then starts speaking. She gives background to her clandestine activities and explains how she came to cooperate with the MKO. She says that after defeats suffered by the MKO during the Iran-Iraq war and after, its leaders decided to implement a new strategy aimed at inducing world public opinion and international organizations to have a new approach towards the Iranian regime. MKO leaders believed their success depended to a large extent on winning support from the West, while at the same time inducing the world to believe the Iranian political system suffered from serious instability.

Amani says one important task in this connection was to create disputes among different sects and religions in Iran, so religious conflict would draw the world's attention towards Iran. It was in this connection that the assassination of Christian priests was put on the agenda. She says these particular Christian priests were chosen by the MKO because of their good reputation and background, thus bringing an even stronger condemnation from the West, international organizations, and the Christian church the world over.

Amani then explains at length how she befriended Priest Mikhailian and gained his trust. Posing as an academic researcher, she met him regularly and attended his congregations. She gives details of where and when they used to meet. Later, the priest was lured into the safe house rented by Amani and her two MKO colleagues. He was then killed with three bullets, and his body was stored in a freezer. The sound of the gunshot drew the attention of the landlord, who rushed upstairs to investigate; he was tied up and gagged.

Amani then explains her second mission, which was to find a suitable burial ground for someone unknown to her. It was only later that she found out the grave was for Priest Mehdi Dibaj.

Her third mission was to locate and study foreign airline offices in Tehran. She says she guessed this was part of preliminary work for some future operation. However, she gives no details about these. After these missions, she was ordered to leave Iran; however, she was arrested in Zahedan by security forces.

After Amani's remarks, Seyyed Jalal Esfahani, the landlord, introduces himself and explains the course of events after hearing gunshots in his tenants' apartment, above his own residence. After stressing that he unknowingly rented the apartment to MKO members, who had introduced themselves as university students, he describes how he was alerted to unusual activities by his tenants, how he was tied up and gagged when he tried to interfere, and how he managed to free himself, find the body in the freezer, and telephone the appropriate security officials, who rushed to the scene and carried out the necessary investigations.

Security Official on MKO Murders

LD1507205094 Tehran IRNA in English 1832 GMT 15 Jul 94

[Text] Tehran, July 15, IRNA—National Security Director of the Information Ministry Musavi-Nejad in an interview with IRNA here Friday disclosed the episodes that led to the arrest of persons responsible for the murder of Christian pastors in Iran and the plot to bomb the holy shrines in Iran.

He said the unveiling of the details of the killing of the pastors and bombing of holy sites in effect neutralized the scheme of the terrorist Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization (MKO) to divide followers of different religions in Iran and create a psychological atmosphere against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Following its sacrilegious bomb blast at the holy shrine of Imam Reza (as) in Mashhad on June 20 the day of Ashura (martyrdom anniversary of Imam Hoseyn), MKO attempts to plant bombs at the Sunni Muslim Friday prayer congregation at Zahedan, the mausoleum of Imam Khomeyni in Tehran and the shrine of Hazrat Ma'soumeh in holy Qom, were aborted by security forces.

The arrests on June 5 of woman terrorists Batul Vaferi Kalateh at the late imam's mausoleum and Maryam Shahbazzpur at the holy shrine in Qom, were followed by the nabbing of a third woman terrorist, Farahnaz Anami, who was trying to flee the country after murdering Armenian Pastor Tatabus Mikailian.

The three terrorists had a criminal record and as Musavi-Nejad said: "Farahnaz Anami was arrested in 1981 and was in prison until 1985. Maryam Shahbazzpur, too, was in jail from 1981 to 1984, and since Batul Vaferi was with child at the time of her arrest in 1981 and later on she gave birth to a baby, was not imprisoned and was pardoned."

The Information Ministry official throwing light on events which led to the unveiling of the elaborate plot said:

"On Wednesday June 29 in a house in Nezamabad (quarter of Tehran) a landlord named Jalal Isfahani was speaking with two of his tenants, Maryam Shahbazzpur and Batul Vaferi, on the first floor of his house when he heard a sound from the second floor. When he intended to go upstairs the two tried to prevent him. At any rate the landlord went upstairs and opened the door. Farahnaz Anami, pointed a revolver at him and helped by a 30-year-old youth tied his hands and legs and quit the place.

"In interrogations, Isfahani has said that after they quitted the place he got help from the son of a neighbor to disentangle himself, and quitted the place to inform law enforcement officials.

"Law enforcement officials noticing bullet marks on the walls thoroughly searched the place and at false covers here and there two silencers and MKO propaganda brochures as well as one body was discovered in a freezer.

"Because of the symptoms of grouplet involvement in the crime the law enforcement officials reported that to the general department of information in Tehran, and follow-up action was undertaken jointly by the information department and law enforcement officials.

"Another search of the house led to the discovery of a road map of several airlines and embassies, and reports on the St Luke Church of Esfahan and of a person from that church named Dmitri Bellous.

"Also another road map was discovered which pointed to some place in Sorkh Hesar in the east of Tehran. The law enforcement officials went to that place and dug out a spot that was marked on the road map and discovered another body of a person with a cross around his neck who had been apparently stabbed with knife.

"Since Mikailian and Mehdi Dibaj were missing and unheard of, with the help of their relatives the bodies were identified. The body in the freezer was that of Mikailian and the body discovered in Sorkh Hesar was that of Dibaj.

"We learned that some parcel that had arrived from a foreign point was to be handed over to somebody. The parcel was later handed over to a Batul Vaferi. We kept track of her movements and watched her get into a house somewhere. A few minutes later two persons that is Batul Vaferi and another person Maryam Shahbazzpur left the place.

"One of them headed for Imam Khomeyni's shrine and the other one for the holy shrine of Hazrat Ma'soumeh in the city of Qom.

"The bombing of Imam Khomeyni's shrine having been on the agenda of the MKO, and its leader having spoken of revenge following the death of terrorist Sadr Lahiji in Iraq earlier and also in view of the fact that the visit to Imam Khomeyni's shrine by a MKO outlaw is something suspicious, the operation team arrested Batul Vaferi upon her arrival at the shrine. During her body search a bomb built into the inside of her handbag was discovered.

The second person too, was kept track of. Maryam Shahbazzpur had gone to Hazratmasouheh's holy shrine in Qom, and since its was considered likely that she, too, might be carrying a bomb she was arrested upon entering the women's [words indistinct] during a search of her belongings it became evident that she, too, was carrying a bomb built into the inside part of a copy of the book of prayers known as 'Mafatihkljenan'.

During interrogations the two persons named a third person by the name of Farahnaz Anami who was then in Zahedan, Sistan Baluchestan province, in order to flee the country. Then it all became evident that the two were involved in the killing of pastor Mikailian.

"The personal particulars of Farahnaz Anami were given to border officials and subsequently a person matching the description provided was arrested by the information department of Sistan Baluchestan Province, and was sent to Tehran after preliminary interrogations.

"She was confronted with the landlord of the house in which the murder had taken place. The landlord Mr. Isfahani identified Farahnaz as the person whom he had seen holding a revolver, and the other two as the same persons who had tried to prevent him from going upstairs.

"Interrogations of Farahnaz Anami led us into another built-in space in the house of Nezamabad at which two Breta revolvers had been hidden and Mikailian was killed with them.

"By the information offered by the arrested people particulars of a fourth person were also obtained. Follow-up action revealed that the fourth person, Majid Esfandiari, was an MKO member who had fled the country along with another person on July 5 through the border in Ilam.

"It also became evident that before fleeing the country they had kidnapped a truck driver by the name of Yazdani and had assaulted him.

"The personal particulars of one of the two matches with the fourth person of the group. We have offered our information to the Foreign Ministry so that through various channels their extradition from Iraq may be effected.

Asked about the body of Mikailian and why the MKO's had abandoned it in the freezer, Musavi-Nejad said:

"As Mr. Isfahani managed to go upstairs, they (terrorists) were taken by surprise. Esfandiari intended to get the ladies out of the scene and return later for the physical clearance of the house. For this reason he took them away from the place aboard Mikailian's car.

"In order to prevent any further betraying of the subject the MKO tried to arrange the exit from Iran of those people. First it arranged the exit from the country of Farahnaz Anami who was the murderer of Mikailian. MKO had also promised to arrange for the exit of the other two after carrying out the bomb blasts.

"Farahnaz Anami who was to flee Iran at the Iran-Pakistan border in Baluchestan has said during interrogations that a liaison of the MKO was to get her to Pakistan through Zahedan, and it arranged that in Pakistan another liaison would hand over a passport to her in order to seek asylum in a Western country.

"As for the two persons who were to place bombs, although they had been promised exit from Ilam border, the MKO did not really intend to procure their exit from Iran, because the bombs had to them to [word indistinct] in those places, despite the fact that they were told that the bombs would operate sometime after their triggers would be pulled, were in fact designed to explode the moment their trigger would be pulled so that the person handling it would certainly be the first obvious victim of the act. [sentence as received]

"The MKO calls these people 'the elimination forces' meaning they were the people who would commit actual suicide without themselves being aware of what is going to befall them. The reason is that they say these operations are 'engineering operations' and no clue should be left of the person performing those operations.

"The assassination of Hayk Hovsepian Mehr had its own implications because it happened at a time when a human rights committee was busy working with the human rights status in Iran in New York, and the international atmosphere was ready for the propaganda... later in our investigations and in the course of interrogations of the MKO terrorists it became evident that Hovsepian Mehr, too, had been murdered by the MKO....

"From another point of view the recent measures of the MKO is considered to be a new line because their actions has international backing. Considering the propaganda

of Israeli radio and the B.B.C. in connection with the killing of the two clergymen we find out they act consistently with the MKO. That is they ascribe the act to the Islamic Republic and try to exploit it as a background to bring up another bigger problem that is religious strife.

"At this stage as a security official I consider the MKO more as a foreign mercenary which, with mafia-type plots seeks to find propaganda material for the foreign enemies of the Islamic Republic of Iran...

"Since the MKO's work for and in the interest of foreign countries, within the framework of national security, we consider the MKO as a mafia-type organization and as a mercenary.

"For sometime the MKO published abroad that its members were being executed in Iran apparently on conviction of drug-smuggling. We were surprised why they said that, since that way [word indistinct] case. But later on in the course of findings about the operations of a MKO network it became evident that MKO had for sometime been involved in drug trafficking in order to build up financially.

It had done this type of propaganda in anticipation of a future happening so that when and if their smuggling operations are discovered they would already have done the necessary publicity and propaganda operations.

"The team that assassinated three Christian clergymen that is Hovesepian Mehr, Mikailian and Dibaj is known by the MKO as an 'engineering team' acting very much like a similar team with the same name in 1981 which kidnapped an Islamic revolution guard and burned him alive for getting information from him...

"In all their operations terrorism is their principal device... killing is the essential essence of the MKO which becomes evident in some way or another every now and then."

Trade Zone Established in Bandar-e 'Abbas

LD1907112194 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] The labor and special employment law of free trade zones is to be implemented in the port of Chabahar and the islands of Kish and Qeshm. Mr. Alviri, the director of the Supreme Council of Trade Zones, has said that an amendment on this has been approved that differs slightly from the labor law. Mr. Alviri added: The aim of free trade zones is the creation of suitable grounds for export, employment, and the attraction of new technology. He continued: A special protected [herasat shodeh] trade zone has been set up in Bandar-e 'Abbas for the direct entry of goods to the country. From now on, traders can unload their goods in the special protected trade zone of Bandar-e 'Abbas instead of Dubayy.

Exports Increase in Volume, Value

LD1907110794 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] During the first quarter of the current year [21 March to 21 June] 1,839,000 tonnes of goods with a value of 1,678 billion rials were exported. In comparison with last year's figure, this shows a 17 percent increase in weight and a 16 percent increase in value. The exported goods included 7,000 tonnes of woollen and silk hand-woven carpets, 28,000 tonnes of pistachios, 367,000 tonnes of iron and steel, 550,000 tonnes of chemical substances, 12,000 tonnes of anodic and cathodic copper, 5,721 tonnes of hides and various types of fur, and 2,000 tonnes of different types of ready made clothes which have been exported abroad through the customs offices of Imam Khomeyni port, Bandar-e 'Abbas, Tabriz, and Bushehr.

No Political Parties Apply for Permits

LD1907111594 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 19 Jul 94

[Text] Since 1361 [year beginning 21 March 1982] 300 guilds and associations [tashakkol] have obtained licenses from the Interior Ministry to begin their activities. Interior Minister 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, announcing this today, added: These associations can be active in political and religious fields.

He said: So far no political party as such has contacted the Interior Ministry in order to obtain a permit for its activities.

The law on political parties was approved by the Islamic Majles in Mehr 1360 [month from 23 September to 22 October 1981].

ABRAR Stresses Need for Government Spokesman

NC1307160794 Tehran ABRAR in Persian 30 Jun 94 p 1

[Editorial: "Believe it or Not, the Government Needs a Spokesman!"]

[Text] With the help of technology, the mass media have increased the speed of news dissemination so much that a clash of opinions takes place in seconds and only those who act swiftly have the upper hand.

In order to project their views in this arena, governments issue statements, communiques, and so on and also appoint a spokesman for the purpose so that stances can be clearly stated in order to stop rumors before they start.

Today, spokesmen and the ways and means of approaching incidents are such that public relations departments also use these services so that they can have

the edge over their competitors in disseminating the first reports and collecting reaction roundups.

Unfortunately, in our country, this tradition has not found its desired niche as it should have, for reasons that certainly merit appraisal. A government spokesman does hold a session from time to time with correspondents who have to wait indefinitely for the next such occasion.

Since we are for numerous political, economic, and cultural reasons in the throes of change, and since we believe that the West under U.S. leadership is always trying to get to the heart of the realities in our country, the selection of a spokesman to announce the government's official stances and to prevent the proliferation of rumors is more necessary than ever before.

The failure on the part of certain individuals to be effective spokesmen should not be permitted to detract from or negate the nature of the need for such an important figure. Following the official chain of command, the elaboration on the nuances of decisions made, and the announcement of programs being implemented fall within the domain of the undeniable responsibility of the government spokesman.

When economic issues and incidents such as the terrorist event of the Mashhad 'Ashura [the bomb explosion at Mashhad shrine on 20 June] occur, and when the government stance is announced by persons other than the official government spokesman, rumors start and this heightens the enemy's chances for reaping propaganda capital.

In addition, when we utilize the highest-level officials of the executive branch such as the president to answer to the various rumors and problems, our opportunities and strength for maneuvering in sensitive circumstances are wrested from us.

For a government to administer a country in today's sensitive circumstances, time is of the essence and the presence of a spokesman can unravel many knots.

Reports 4,000 Officers Dismissed Denied

LD2007152594 Tehran IRNA in English 1456 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] Tehran, July 20, IRNA—The public relations office of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) here today denied a report by the London-based daily 'THE INDEPENDENT' that the IRGC had dismissed four thousand of its officers.

In a statement issued here, it said that in accordance with the Article 123 of the IRGC Employment Act, the four thousand rank and file had reached the retiring age of 60 and were entitled to retire.

Appreciating the services of the retired personnel, the statement said the veterans of the eight year-old Iraqi imposed war (1980-1988) did not lose any time to risk their own life in the course of the war.

The statement said the retired veterans are loyal to the IRGC and ready to serve the Islamic revolution whenever necessary.

Paratroops Participate in Exercise in Shiraz

LD1707183994 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 17 Jul 94

[Text] The paratroopers of the 55th Airborne Brigade of the infantry forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran's Army in Shiraz today displayed their combat power and military readiness by taking part in a military exercise.

Hundreds of special paratroopers took part in this military exercise in which the participating forces destroyed equipment and trenches of a hypothetical enemy through airborne activities with support from fighting helicopters and air force fighter planes.

In this exercise, carried out in the presence of high ranking commanders of the army and the guards corps, the special airborne brigade forces' achievement of set targets in firing power, combat capability, and coordination were evaluated and praised.

IRGC Commander Says 1,000 Basij Brigades Formed

LD1607192494 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 94

[Text] So far 1,000 Basij brigades have been formed in the country. Brigadier General Zolqadr, chief of the joint staff [Ra'is-e setad-e moshtarak] of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), who is visiting Semnan to participate in the maneuvers conducted by the Ashura battalions, said: Each year we conduct different maneuvers in various provinces in order to organize and safeguard the preparedness of the Basij forces.

The IRGC chief of the joint staff said that among the duties of the Basij forces during the reconstruction period is to participate in development activities. He added: Currently the huge Karkheh dam is being built by such forces.

***Right of Publication Withdrawn From Weekly**

94LA0208A Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVA'I in Persian 22 Jun 94 p 4

[Text] Tehran, 25 Khordad [15 June] (IRNA)—The right of the publication HAVADES was withdrawn due to failure to carry out its press mission and its containing obscene and empty content.

Dr. Hasan Kamran, the representative of the Judicial Branch in the Council Supervising Over the Press and a member of the Guidance and Art Committee of the Majles, made the above announcement and said: Upon examining various issues of this publication, the Council

Supervising Over the Press reached the conclusion that the course that HAVADES follows would not carry out the mission of the press.

He added: Due to problems of HAVADES, the Council Supervising Over the Press voted to withdraw the right of publication of this weekly.

Kamran said: Unfortunately, the HAVADES weekly contained obscene matter and stories with empty content and in choosing inappropriate titles and using popular magazine story writers of the regime of the tyrant propagated obscene material.

According to him: The audience of this weekly consisted mostly of youth and young people, and essentially the publication of such material provoked them. [sentence as published] Also, upon examining the content of HAVADES weekly, we reached the conclusion that this publication was trying to spread lies, propagate prohibited acts, and spread debauchery throughout the society.

Kamran said: Many people have complained to the deputy for domestic press of the Ministry of Islamic Culture and Guidance about this publication and have said: The statements that this publication attributes to us are not ours at all, and sometimes the reputation of a person is ruined in this magazine.

He added: This publication prints obscene pictures, methods of theft, crimes, sinful relationships, and ethnic and tribal quarrels in order to excite and provoke the craving young generation. If in this publication there is no education, this action is spreading debauchery.

It is interesting that 109 issues of this weekly were published in three years, and its owner is 'Ali Aqa Mohammadi, who holds the license and is the general manager of the magazine.

***Editorial on 'Destructive' Religious Practices**

94LA0208F Tehran KEYHAN-E HAVAT in Persian
29 Jun 94 p 8

[Text] Fighting the destructive cultural phenomena, superstitions, and innovations, which sometimes in the name of religion and sometimes the customs and habits of an old people threaten the ancient Iranian society with superficial dangers requires contemplation and innovative and constructive ideas.

One might dare say that few of the reformers, thinkers, and religious and political leaders in contemporary Iran set out to fight superstition and ignorance, as has the grand leader, and have so bravely entered an arena in which, due to the superstitions and some false ideas in the authentic Islamic and Iranian culture and the commixture of the two, many of them had been formed and institutionalized.

Among such cases we can refer to self-laceration, which, unfortunately, had openly become a show-off and was about to pollute the spiritual atmosphere of love of the

Sire of Martyrs, Abu 'Abdollah Hoseyn, with selfish passion. Despite the fact that many thought that separating superstitions from religious customs and worship would be very difficult, the grand leader, Ayatollah Khamene'i, in a very explicit speech expressed his position and views about this and in a fatherly manner closed the way of deviation and innovation to those unaware and ignorant. A look at the method of the grand leader reveals a method that he followed in dealing with self-laceration on rational, scientific, and religious bases, and we realize that with this method, he responded to many questions that exist in the minds of those interested in the school of Imam Hoseyn and also neutralized the false propaganda and ill intentions of the enemies of pure Mohammadan Islam.

His method was fatherly advice, which made many people aware. The fact that during the first 10 days of mourning the most brave of the martyrs of Karbala, Imam Hoseyn, the amount of blood donated by people to the Blood Transfusion Organization increased sevenfold itself indicates the obedience of the followers to the leader and correct understanding of the needs of the day, an understanding that materialized with the advice and warnings of the grand leader and was manifested in the form of donations of blood to the Iranian Blood Transfusion Organization.

Nevertheless, some criticism is proper in regards to some officials who thought cultural or religious deviations can be eliminated by force.

For example, the Ministry of Interior suddenly by issuing a communique prohibited self-laceration, as if prior to the statements of the grand leader in regards to the prohibition and impropriety of self-laceration, this action had not been antireligious and subsequently illegal. However, the late imam also did not consider self-laceration permissible and had explicitly announced it. Unfortunately, the Ministry of Interior stepped into an arena in which only cultural and religious organizations and personalities are effective and in this manner paled the efforts of religious and cultural organizations and personalities and learned individuals.

Regardless of whether or not the Ministry of Interior would prohibit self-laceration, the people would obey their leader and announce this obedience explicitly in the form of communiques, religious speeches, and mourning sessions and in this manner reacted admirably in the positions of the leader.

Entering the arena of fighting superstitions, innovations, and customs that are rooted in ignorance is neither an action that is possible with the announcement of prohibition and issuance of harsh communiques by the Ministry of Interior alone, since essentially in this arena, the Ministry of Interior can be considered as an agency helpful to the cultural and religious institutions such as the press, the Voice and Vision, the Islamic Propaganda Organization, religious and mourning groups, mosques, Hoseynieh's, libraries, City Hall, etc., rather than

frowning and engaging in issuing strong orders. Such problems have been created over a long period of time in the course of history, and their solution also will come through methods that influence views rather than by the use of force and power and announcing prohibitions against the people engaging superstitious acts.

It is proper to point out the very appropriate action of the Blood Transfusion Organization, which used its resources during the mourning ceremonies of the Brave of the Martyrs in a sufficient and elegant manner in order to facilitate blood donations by the mourners. The successful action of the Blood Transfusion Organization resulted in the people, in mutual affiliation with the officials and correctly understanding the conditions of the day, welcoming the call of this organization.

In conclusion, it is necessary to point out that the officials of the Ministry of Interior, before engaging in any action of this kind, should think a bit more or consult with thinkers who are more expert in the arena of culture and society. The necessities of the day require avoiding as much as possible the slightest hasty decision or early announcement.

Faramarz Qarabaghi, News Service

Nepal

Qian Says Dialogue 'Possible' With Dalai Lama

BK2107032394 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] The Chinese vice premier and foreign minister, Mr. Qian Qichen, says a dialogue is possible with the Dalai Lama if he does not engage in activities aimed at independence of Tibet. Talking to Indian journalists in Kathmandu yesterday, he said the accusations by some people in the United States that China is violating human rights in Tibet are baseless.

Replying to a question, he said progress has been made in the economic and trade relations and toward better understanding of some political issues during his visit to both India and Nepal.

Nationwide Strike Called by Leftist Parties

BK2007104294 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 20 Jul 94

[Text] In Nepal, normal life has been affected today following a countrywide *bundh* [strike] called by six left parties, including the main opposition Communist Party of Nepal-UML [United Marxist-Leninist]. AIR [All India Radio] Kathmandu correspondent, quoting official sources, said that there are no reports of serious violence from anywhere so far. However, 14 vehicles were damaged in different places due to stone throwing.

Shops and business establishments are closed and transport is completely off the roads. Government offices, schools, and colleges are functioning with thin attendance.

Our correspondent says the left parties have launched the countrywide agitation demanding the dismissal of the caretaker government of Prime Minister Mr. Girija Prasad Koirala and installation of an all-party government.

Ruling Party Official: Democracy 'in Great Danger'

BK1907121994 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Jul 94 p 8

[Report by Ethan Casey]

[Text] Kathmandu—"The fledgling democracy is in great danger," Nepali Congress Party supreme leader Ganesh Man Singh said over the weekend.

"I cannot say that democracy can be saved."

In an exclusive bedside interview with BANGKOK POST at Bir Hospital here the man who is widely hailed as "the Gandhi of Nepal" expressed grave doubts over the future stability of democracy in his country and urged all Nepalese to struggle for its preservation in the uncertain months ahead.

"As fish cannot be without water, so we cannot be without democracy," he said.

Nepal has faced an unstable political and constitutional situation since July 10 when prime minister Girija Prasad Koirala resigned suddenly after losing a crucial vote in parliament, 86 to 74.

The result was engineered by a "group of 36" dissident MPs belonging to Mr Koirala's own ruling Nepali Congress who abstained en masse from the vote.

Mr Koirala's decision to present his resignation directly to King Birendra, the country's constitutional head of state, rather than consult other Congress leaders, angered many of his colleagues as well as members of the main opposition Communist Party of Nepal (United Marxist and Leninist), or CPNUML.

Even more controversial was the premier's recommendation that mid-term polls be held.

The king accepted Mr Koirala's recommendation last week and scheduled polls for November 13.

Many, including Mr Singh, see Mr Koirala's move as high-stakes political brinkmanship aimed at securing his own return to power, even at the cost of the democratic system.

Nepal promulgated a democratic constitution in November 1990 following civil unrest that culminated in April of that year.

"This time not only democracy is in danger, nationalism is in danger," said Mr Singh, speaking with effort as he lay immobile on his hospital bed.

"The moment democracy finishes, nationalism also finishes." Mr Singh has been hospitalised since June 21 when he sustained cervical injuries after falling from a chair.

"The responsibility of this situation all comes down to one person," he said. "Who is that person? Prime minister Girija Prasad Koirala, the show boy of the reactionary forces."

Many of his adversaries consider Mr Koirala arrogant, authoritarian and corrupt.

Mr Koirala is "horribly corrupt" said CPNUML chairman Manmohan Adhikari last week. "The entire family is horribly corrupt."

Mr Koirala has been at odds with both Mr Singh and Congress president Krishna Prasad Bhattarai for some months.

At present, said Mr Singh, "democratic Nepalis are waiting to see what the democratic leaders decide".

Political moves by all parties continued behind the scenes over the weekend as the CPNUML held mass meetings and cried slogans from three-wheeled taxis adorned with the party's red flag.

Pakistan

Foreign Minister Views Ties With Central Asia

BK2107044194 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Jul 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali has expressed Pakistan's desire to have friendly relations with all countries based on principles of noninterference. Addressing the certificate awards ceremony of a special diplomatic course for Central Asian Republics and Azerbaijan in Islamabad, he said we have centuries-old historic, cultural, and commercial relations with these countries and we share common values. The foreign minister said Pakistan, having a good infrastructure, is ready to help develop the trade of Central Asian countries. Sardar Asif Ahmad Ali recalled that 140 students from Central Asian countries have qualified to various Pakistani institutions. He said Pakistan is ready to provide facilities for such training in all fields. The countries which were represented in the diplomatic course included Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan.

Later talking to newsmen, the foreign minister said Pakistan will raise the Kashmir issue at the United Nations. He said that we are working seriously to forge a national consensus on this issue.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 352
MERRIFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication. Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government. Users of this publication may cite FBIS or JPRS provided they do so in a manner clearly identifying them as the secondary source.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) and Joint Publications Research Service (JPRS) publications contain political, military, economic, environmental, and sociological news, commentary, and other information, as well as scientific and technical data and reports. All information has been obtained from foreign radio and television broadcasts, news agency transmissions, newspapers, books, and periodicals. Items generally are processed from the first or best available sources. It should not be inferred that they have been disseminated only in the medium, in the language, or to the area indicated. Items from foreign language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed. Except for excluding certain diacritics, FBIS renders personal names and place-names in accordance with the romanization systems approved for U.S. Government publications by the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by FBIS/JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpts] in the first line of each item indicate how the information was processed from the original. Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear from the original source but have been supplied as appropriate to the context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by the source. Passages in boldface or italics are as published.

SUBSCRIPTION/PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

The FBIS DAILY REPORT contains current news and information and is published Monday through Friday in eight volumes: China, East Europe, Central Eurasia, East Asia, Near East & South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and West Europe. Supplements to the DAILY REPORTs may also be available periodically and will be distributed to regular DAILY REPORT subscribers. JPRS publications, which include approximately 50 regional, worldwide, and topical reports, generally contain less time-sensitive information and are published periodically.

Current DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are listed in *Government Reports Announcements* issued semimonthly by the National Technical Information Service (NTIS), 5285 Port Royal Road, Springfield, Virginia 22161 and the *Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

The public may subscribe to either hardcover or microfiche versions of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications through NTIS at the above address or by calling (703) 487-4630. Subscription rates will be

provided by NTIS upon request. Subscriptions are available outside the United States from NTIS or appointed foreign dealers. New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.

U.S. Government offices may obtain subscriptions to the DAILY REPORTs or JPRS publications (hardcover or microfiche) at no charge through their sponsoring organizations. For additional information or assistance, call FBIS, (202) 338-6735, or write to P.O. Box 2604, Washington, D.C. 20013. Department of Defense consumers are required to submit requests through appropriate command validation channels to DIA, RTS-2C, Washington, D.C. 20301. (Telephone: (202) 373-3771, Autovon: 243-3771.)

Back issues or single copies of the DAILY REPORTs and JPRS publications are not available. Both the DAILY REPORTs and the JPRS publications are on file for public reference at the Library of Congress and at many Federal Depository Libraries. Reference copies may also be seen at many public and university libraries throughout the United States.